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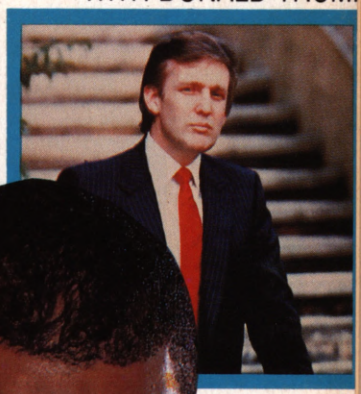

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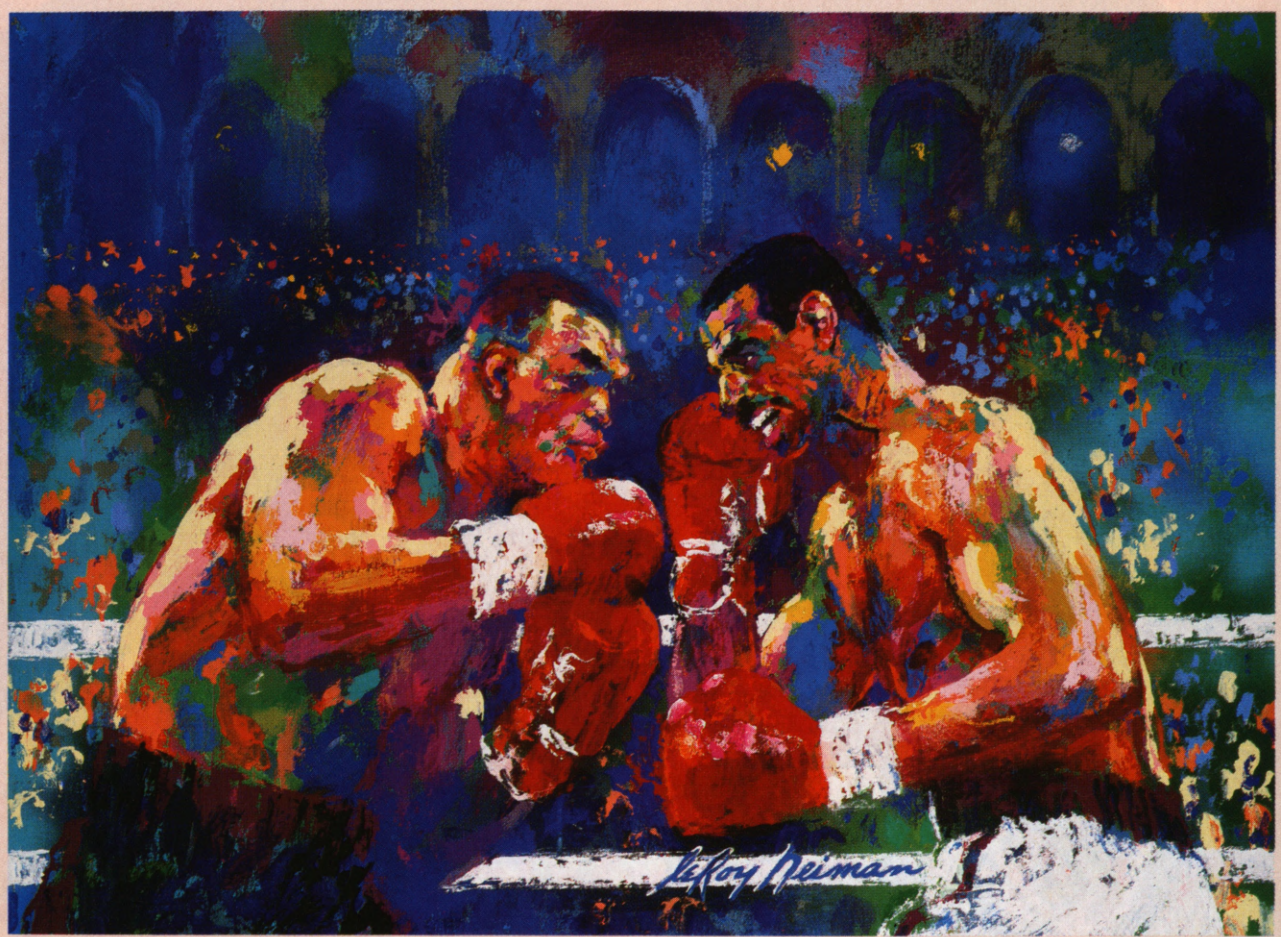

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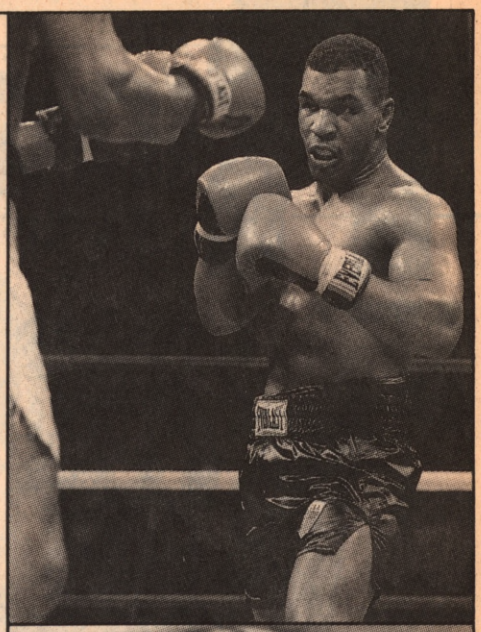

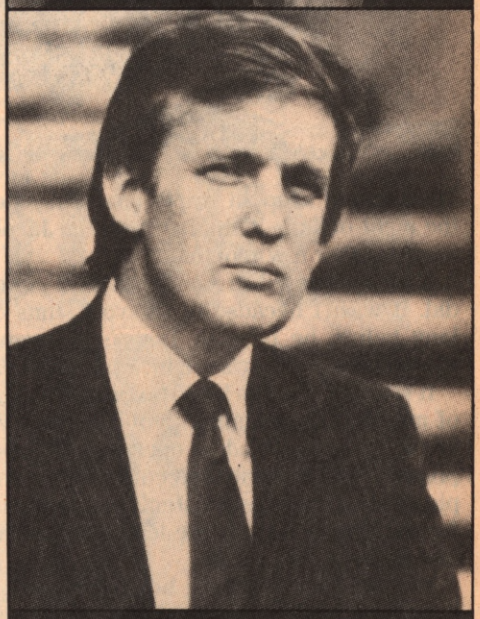

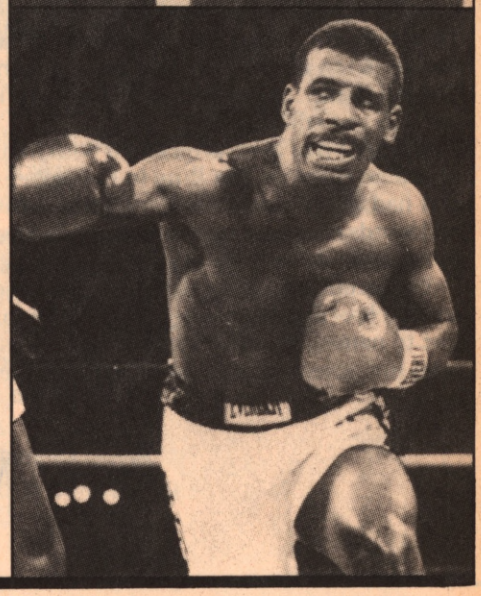

RingSide

THE RING
July, 1988 Vol LXVII, No. 5
"The Bible of Boxing"
Established 1922 by
Nat Fleischer

They should keep an empty chair ringside at Atlantic City Convention Hall on the night of June 27th; the chair Jim Jacobs would have surely sat in if he had lived another few months.

Nobody wanted to see the Mike Tyson-Michael Spinks bout more than Jim did. It wasn't because of the vast sums of money involved; Jim was wealthy long before he became Tyson's co-manager. And it wasn't just because he cherished a good prize fight; which he undoubtedly did.

It was because Jim loved boxing with a passion and understood the importance of maintaining the integrity of the heavyweight championship of the world. He knew, as he testified in open court, Tyson had to beat Spinks in the ring to preserve that integrity and continue the lineal procession of heavyweight champions. Most managers in Jim's position would have been furious with *The Ring* for backing Spinks as the legitimate champion, but he understood our stance and respected us for it.

Not only did Jim love boxing in general, he loved *The Ring* in particular. Long-time readers probably remember the series of articles he penned with Nat Fleischer, comparing the merits of old-timers with those of modern boxing heroes. Even after Tyson became a superstar, Jim was never too busy to help *The Ring*, and his unparalleled library of fight films and video tapes was always open to our editorial staff.

Though I had been acquainted with him for a number of years, it wasn't until I became editor of *The Ring* in December of 1984 that I came to know Jim well and had the pleasure of hearing him call me his friend. His kindness, counsel and words of encouragement, which helped me survive many a rough day during those difficult early months, will never be forgotten.

Jim Jacobs was many things to many people — loving husband, valued friend, world class athlete, peerless boxing historian and successful boxing manager; just to name a few. But most of all he was a gentleman and a gentle man. I will miss him greatly and humbly dedicate this issue of *The Ring* to his memory.

Nigel Collins

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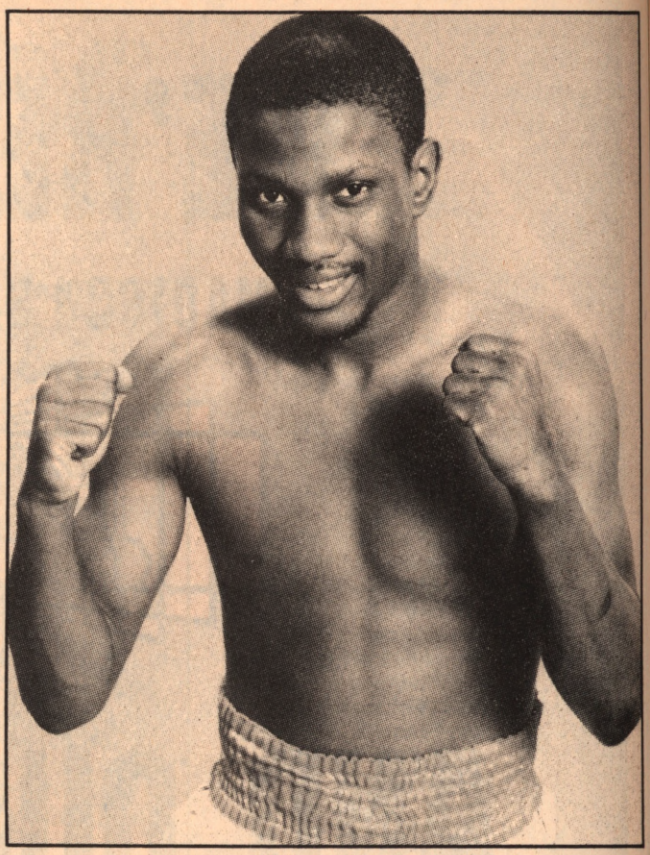
Come Out Writing



Readers John Canterbury and Robert McNeil are among the many boxing fans outraged by the shafting Pernell Whitaker received from the judges in his bout with Jose Luis Ramirez for the WBC lightweight title.

CANADIAN CLARIFICATION

THANK YOU FOR YOUR WRITEUP ON Canadian and British Commonwealth light heavyweight champion Willy Featherstone ("Boxer Shorts, April '88). While very much appreciated, I wish to point out one error: Although it's true we had the then Canadian champion Donny Lalonde signed (for a match) on three different occasions, Lalonde was not "stripped." He chose to "voluntarily" give up the title rather than face Featherstone.

This letter is being written only to be fair to Lalonde, a fellow Canadian. We only wish he would be half as fair to Featherstone and fulfill his obligation. You would certainly think Lalonde would like to clear up this outstanding debt in the name of honor, not to mention his slightly tarnished image in Canadian boxing circles.

We are not hard to get along with. We will gladly sign a fourth contract. I await David Wolf's phone call.

RAYMOND BUTLER
(manager of Willy Featherstone)
Brampton, Ontario, Canada

ACCOLADES FOR SEABROOKS

I AM WRITING IN PRAISE OF AN AMERIcan boxer who is doing a terrific job here in Europe — Kelvin Seabrooks. He has thrilled fight fans in Paris with his spectacular wins over Thierry Jacob and Francois Beltran. He and his manager, Bill Reynolds, have acted as great ambassadors for the USA, making themselves extensively available, not just to the press, but also to fight fans. I was starting to wonder if it was only Europeans who appreciated him and was pleased to read *The Ring's* features on Seabrooks ("Two Who Persevered," December '87 & "Progress of the Year," April '88). Keep up the great work, Kelvin and Bill. I hope your reign is a long one.

GRAHAM MINETT
West Sussex, England

READER DEFENDS HAGLER

I AM SAD TO SEE MY FAVORITE MAGAzine has stooped to the level of some less prestigious publications and started indulging in the current rage among boxing columnists — Hagler bashing. It is sad that this man, after decades of devotion to his sport and craft, should be attacked and belittled because he had the nerve and temerity to protest his treatment at the hands of some of the less than knowledgeable members of the boxing world. Even if I believed that Sugar Ray Leonard won his match against Hagler (something which I don't believe for one minute), I would protest those things which have been said in your publication about both Mr. Hagler's mental state and his supposed lack of class.

The Ring, not unlike *Sports Illustrated*, has been taking Hagler to task for crying foul about the bout and basically refusing to go gently into that good night. You refer to him as "bellyaching" about the decision. You seem to want him to shut up and bow before the God Sugar Ray. I think that this is a sad and tragic mistake. Why do we in this sport have to be like the rest of the nation and celebrate style over substance? When Sugar's ego finally puts him back in the ring with Marvin or a younger man, maybe you'll see what Marvin means to regular, hard working people and real boxing fans all over the world. And why he'll always be respected by people who read *The Ring* magazine every month, if not by you.

DAVID D. MACKS
Albany, New York

Editor's Note: *The Ring* has the utmost respect for Hagler as a great boxer and a future member of *The Ring's* Boxing Hall of Fame. But even you must realize he'll never regain the middleweight title by crying the blues. The only way he can do that is by fighting, which is exactly what we suggested.

AWARD-WINNING CRITICISM

I DISAGREE WITH YOUR CHOICE OF Evander Holyfield as *The Ring's*

1987 Fighter of the Year over Mike Tyson. I disagree with your reasons for choosing Holyfield as well. Your reason boiled down to the fact that Holyfield's "report card" was better than Tyson's. I would say while Holyfield's report card was better, he took art and music while Tyson took algebra and calculus.

CHARLES KOHLBERG
Wolcott, Conn.

YOU GUYS REALLY BLEW IT. YOU made a terrible mistake awarding Evander Holyfield Fighter of the Year. Don't get me wrong. Evander is a great fighter, but I think Sugar Ray Leonard deserved the award. You stated that *The Ring* does not feel a single bout is enough to warrant giving Leonard top honors. But Marvelous Marvin Hagler was your Fighter of the Year for 1985. In 1985 Marvin only had one fight and that was against Hearns. This is not fair to Leonard.

PAUL BAINOTTI
Thousand Oaks, California

THE RING HAS REALLY LET ME DOWN this time. In a year when we had two brave warriors by the names of Matthew Hilton and Buster Drayton stand toe-to-toe and give it absolutely everything within their beings for 15 furious non-stop rounds of fighting, you give Fight of the Year to a waltz. The Leonard-Hagler footrace was barely a fight, let alone a great one. The only thing that disgusted me more than that "fight" was *The Ring* voting it as Fight of the Year.

TOM MCCAMMON
Ridley Park, PA

. . . AND SOME PRAISE

I WOULD LIKE TO CONGRATULATE *The Ring* staff on their intelligent selection of Evander Holyfield as *The Ring*'s Fighter of the Year for 1987. Holyfield's ring performances during 1987 justified his selection. It's true that Mike Tyson receives more media attention (translated: hype) than Holyfield does, but he's not a better fighter. I would rank both Holyfield and Julio Caesar Chavez ahead of Tyson in terms of overall boxing ability.

Mike Tyson is a real good young fighter, but he's not the pugilistic deity that certain members of the media (nobody will mention Larry Merchant and Barry Tompkins by name) would like everybody to believe. Holyfield and Tyson will definitely scuffle in the near future and when they do look for Holyfield to stop him via the TKO route.

GEORGE MANESIS
Fargo, ND

WHITAKER WAYLAID IN PARIS

THE MARVIN HAGLER-RAY LEONARD decision was bad, but the Jose Luis Ramirez-Pernell Whitaker decision was the worst I've seen in my 60 years as a fight fan.

JOHN CANTERBURY
Collinsville, IL

I AM VERY SAD TO HAVE TO INFORM you that when my present subscription to your fine magazine expires, I will not renew. My reason is as follows: I just watched a fight on national TV which was stolen from a very deserving young man. I refer to Pernell Whitaker, who was robbed of the WBC lightweight title in his fight with Jose Luis Ramirez. As a long-time boxing fan, I strongly believe the president of the WBC is responsible. After Holmes was robbed in his second fight with Spinks, I vowed that if I ever witnessed another theft in a championship bout, I would never again support boxing in any manner. I had hoped that Las Vegas was the only place where boxing fans had to worry about this sort of thing happening. But apparently, the long arm of Jose Sulaiman reaches all the way to Paris. I am certainly not holding your fine magazine to blame, but I believe that until fans stop all support of boxing, the establishment simply won't have any incentive to clean it up.

ROBERT MCNEIL
Indianapolis, IN

Editor's Note: Mr. McNeil, while I share your dismay with the horrendous verdict rendered in the Ramirez-Whitaker match, I urge you to reconsider your decision to stop reading *The Ring*. After all, the publication has been a leader in the campaign to debunk the Alphabet Boys and restore integrity to the sport of boxing. But *The Ring* can't do it alone. We need all the help we can get . . . including yours.

READER OUTRAGED AT TYSON-SPINKS TICKET PRICES

THE UPCOMING TYSON-SPINKS FIGHT is evidently a social gathering for the elite only; unless you are irresponsible enough to take out another mortgage on your home, hit the lotto, turn tricks or print your own money. It is obviously not a sports event for the average income boxing fan, even if you have followed and cheered your hero up through the ranks.

Some wives complain about being "football or baseball widows," but I, for one, take exception. My husband is a very hard-working, conscientious and decent man. His only real hobby and enjoyment is boxing. Mike Tyson is his favorite. He has watched Mike since "Day One" and immediately picked him as the next champ. Upon reading that the fight was scheduled to be held in Atlantic City on June 27, I immediately set out to purchase two tickets. I was elated picturing the delight on my husband's face when on his birthday (June 23) he was presented with the tickets. I had even foolishly gone so far as to begin planning a mini-vacation; spending the weekend in Atlantic City. Needless to say, my balloon was bitterly burst upon learning that ringside seats were going for $1,500!

I am outraged and I'll bet there are countless others who share this disappointment. If baseball, football, hockey and basketball games were priced like this, no city would need a stadium. Also, if it were not for all the fans like my husband, Mike Tyson would never be in a position to command 10 to 20 million dollars for a championship fight. Wake up, people!!!

LANA CAREY
Randallstown, MD

SHUT UP AND REF

YOU NO DOUBT HAVE NOTICED THAT there are a couple of boxing referees who spoil the TV viewers' enjoyment of the bouts by constantly admonishing the boxers during the action, "Don't hold! Don't hold!" This is very annoying and I think it is ignorant. I wish they'd just do their job and shut up.

JACQUE R. FARMER
Detroit, MI

Round One

By Phill Marder

REST IN PEACE

The Ring lost another friend with the recent passing of **Frank Allnutt**.

Allnutt covered Canada for *The Ring* for 25 years before dying of lung cancer at the age of 72.

Born in London, Allnutt moved to Canada in 1946. During World War II, he boxed while serving in India for the British army. After moving to Canada, he began working in publishing for Penguin Books and remained with that firm for 30 years.

Allnutt was given the final count of 10 at a recent Shawn O'Sullivan bout. He is survived by his widow, Marion.

MARVELOUS MARVIN BERET?

It appears as if **Marvelous Marvin Hagler** is in anything but a rush to resume his boxing career.

Instead, Hagler traveled to the Philippines to begin a new career in film, co-starring in the movie "Indio" in which he plays a former Green Beret.

"It's nice the way people talk about me," Hagler told Jim Fenton of *The Brockton Enterprise*. "I go to supermarkets, department stores, and everybody's asking, 'Marvin, what are you going to do?' I think that's nice, but going away to make this movie will let me get away from all this boxing talk and it'll be great therapy.

"I'm going into this and they don't know if I can act, and I'm not sure myself," Hagler added. "But I'm a ham, and I know I'm going to like it. What I'm going to do is put the same type of attitude from boxing, the sacrificing, the devoting of time and concentration on one goal, into this. I'm not out to be a star or anything. It's just something to have to lean back on. It's a new challenge, something I'm looking forward to."

Meanwhile, the prospects of seeing Hagler in the ring again grow dimmer with each passing day. At least the prospects of seeing Hagler as we remember him. The ex-middleweight champion is now 34 years old and has fought just 26 rounds since 1984.

"I realize I'm getting older," admitted Hagler. "If I decide in May that I'm going to fight, I'll have to move quickly. But this film will help me stay in shape and prepare myself for training camp if that is the decision I make."

PHOTO BY TOM CASINO

HURRICANE BLOWS FREE

Finally, the triple murder charges against former middleweight contender **Rubin "Hurricane" Carter** have been dropped.

Carter spent almost 20 years in prison in New Jersey where he was twice convicted for the fatal shootings of two men and a woman in Paterson. Carter protested his innocence, claiming he was framed, and his cause was championed by many, even **Bob Dylan**, who composed "Hurricane," protesting Carter's innocence.

"They sentenced me to a life of living death," said the 50-year-old Carter. "And that is the only way of describing prison."

Carter said he plans to get as far away from New Jersey as possible, stating, "I have now received my wings, and I am flying."

In 1974, Carter's autobiography, "The 16th Round," was published giving an account of Carter's arrest and initial conviction. Now, he is working on a second book, "No Holds Barred and No Bars to Hold" and is considering several movie offers based on his life.

TEXAS TAKES A STAND

Leave it to Texas to tell boxing's so-called governing bodies to take a hike.

The home of "The Alamo" has taken another stand, one which we heartily applaud, by withdrawing support from the WBC, WBA and IBF. The reason — it's a waste of the taxpayer's money.

Darn tootin'.

Naturally, those involved in pocketing that money are screaming bloody murder. Tsk, tsk. If only every state would follow suit, perhaps those who are getting rich for doing nothing but screwing up a great sport would eventually fade back into South America or Great Britain or wherever they came from.

HOW SWEET IT IS

The **Sugar Ray Robinson Youth Foundation** recently held a tribute to the great former middleweight and welterweight champion

Evander Holyfield receives his trophy as The Ring's *1987 Fighter of the Year from editor Nigel Collins at a Manhattan press conference sponsored by SHOWTIME and Main Events/Monitor.*

Round One

at its 14th Annual Teen Pageant at the Hollywood Palladium.

To the pageant participants, Pageant Producer and Director George Griffin wrote, "One of the greatest gifts of life is the ability to give of one's self. Sugar Ray has done this in my generation. When I was growing up in the South, Sugar Ray was a role model for me. As a boxer, he was tough, determined and fiercely independent. His example encouraged me to stand up for what was right.

"Sugar Ray has also given himself to your generation through the Foundation. As a human being, he has shown compassion, understanding and a burning desire to make young people's lives a little better."

Robinson, in a written message contained in the Pageant's program, said, "I've seen many kids come out of the Sugar Ray Robinson Youth Foundation who went on to make their mark in sports, entertainment, business and politics — and many, many others who became solid, good citizens in our community. We at Sugar Ray have dedicated our lives to our children's future.

"But such success stories are becoming increasingly difficult in our troubled times of drug abuse, rising racial tension, juvenile delinquency and violence. That's why at this time I'm making an urgent plea to all parents: Take control of your children's lives. Become part of their lives!"

ROSIN DUST

It was certainly nice to see **Alex Wallau** back at his post with ABC. Wallau, recently operated on for throat cancer, sounded a bit hoarse and appeared somewhat thinner as he returned to share commentary duties with **Al Michaels** on the Rocky Lockridge/Harold Knight fight. But his speedy return to work is a positive sign, and his comments were true to the mark, as usual ... While Lockridge continues to improve with age, fate has not been as kind to one of his buddies, **Johnny Bumphus**. Bumphus, who became addicted to cocaine after losing his WBA junior welterweight title to Gene Hatcher, has been in Nashville's Baptist Hospital trying to shake his habit at the age of 27 ... Reports of drug abuse continue to surface among active boxers as Philadelphia's **Vaughn Hooks** was suspended by the Pennsylvania State Athletic Commission after traces of cocaine turned up in his urinalysis after he won the USBA light heavyweight title over Frankie Swindell. The 28-year-old Hooks, 16-0 as a pro, was stripped of the title, and his manager, Danny Partenope, said his fighter had agreed to enter a drug rehab program ... Former USBA middleweight titleholder **Alex Ramos** was arrested and booked for investigation of assault with a deadly weapon in California. The 27-year-old Ramos allegedly held a gun to the head of a girl who was living with his former live-in girlfriend, who managed to contact police. When the law arrived, Ramos was found with the gun in the yard of a neighbor. Ordered to drop the gun, Ramos did. But when he reached under his shirt toward his waistband, an officer, believing he was reaching for another weapon, fired a warning shot and Ramos was arrested without further incident ... In Mexico City, welterweight **Rodolfo "Gato" Gonzalez** was in satisfactory condition after being stabbed in the back following a Mexico City traffic accident. Gonzalez' left lung was punctured ... Having been arrested on drug-trafficking charges in January, former welterweight contender **Tommy Ayers** got himself busted again, this time on gambling charges, when Cincinnati police raided a crap game ... **George Goldberg**, a timekeeper for the New Jersey Athletic Commission, passed away at age 83 ... **Lou Duva's** seafood restaurant in Totowa, New Jersey, is doing quite well and no wonder. The food is terrific and the restaurant/bar is a haven for sports fanatics. Don't expect Lou to lose any weight in the near future. □

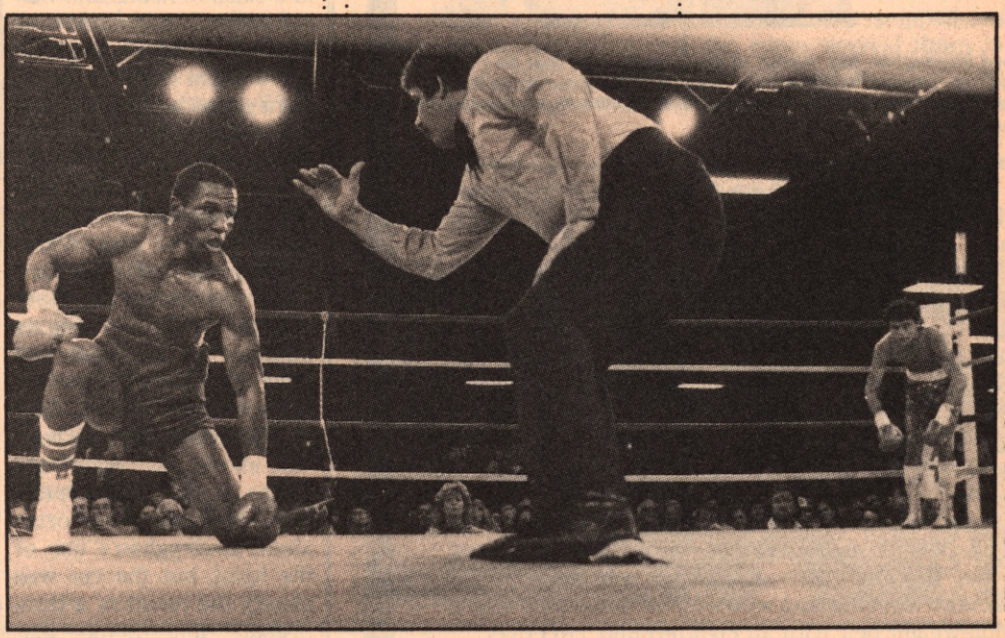


PHOTO BY CHRIS FARINA

Engels Pedroza*, The Ring's *1987 Prospect of the Year, began '88 with a bang, stopping Tyrone Cotton in the first round to run his knockout streak to sixteen straight.

Ring Side Reports

FIGHTER OF THE MONTH

Lloyd Honeyghan has reason to smile again now that he's regained the world welterweight title by knocking out Jorge Vaca. The victory also earned Honeyghan THE RING's Fighter of the Month honors.

Lloyd Honeyghan is the Fighter of the Month following his impressive blitz of Jorge Vaca to regain the world welterweight title. Honeyghan, fighting before a partisan crowd in London, England, reversed the lone loss of his pro career with a two-fisted assault which finished the Mexican 2:58 into Round Three. Vaca tried to match Honeyghan punch-for-punch, but fell victim to a savage body attack.

Runner-up spot goes to undefeated Australian **Jeff Fenech**, who added a third title to his growing collection when he stopped Puerto Rican Victor Callejas in the 10th round to annex the vacant WBC featherweight crown.

Honorable mentions go to **Iran Barkley**, who TKO'd Michael Olajide in Round Five to earn a shot at Thomas Hearns' WBC middleweight title and German hero **Graciano Rocchigiani**, who won the vacant IBF super middleweight belt with an eighth-round TKO over American Vincent Boulware. □

HONEYGHAN-VACA
World Welterweight Championship

LONDON — JORGE VACA'S reign as world welterweight champion began in controversy, but ended conclusively — and quickly.

Making the first defense of the championship he took on a technical decision from England's Lloyd Honeyghan five months previous, Vaca was overwhelmed by the same Brit, who was determined to avenge the lone setback of his career. In a brief, but sensational slugfest, Vaca was counted out by American referee Joe Cortez at 2:58 of the third of the scheduled 12.

Vaca had won the championship when he was cut in a clash of heads and was ruled unable to continue. At the time of the stoppage, he had a slight edge thanks to Honeyghan being penalized a point, and the title changed hands.

This time, Honeyghan, who weighed 146½, a pound more than Vaca, never let up on the Mexican. From the first bell, Honeyghan was winging punches to the head and body and before the first three minutes ended, Vaca was bleeding badly from a cut above the right eye. Twice during the frame, Vaca complained to Cortez about Honeyghan's use of the head, but the cut was clearly the result of a Honeyghan left hook that caught Vaca as he came in. Vaca immediately backed up and rubbed at the wound.

But the cut would not prove Vaca's downfall. In fact, the Mexican's corner did a fine job of slowing the bleeding and Vaca, who had won 18 straight in improving his record to 38-5-1 going in, continued giving almost as much as he was taking during the second round and the first minute of Round Three.

As the two continued to trade bombs, Honeyghan finally broke through, backing Vaca to the ropes with several good shots. He fired away, alternating body and head shots as well as his stance, which he occasionally switched to southpaw. From the left side, Honeyghan buried a right uppercut/hook into Vaca's midsection, and the champion sank to all fours. There were just seconds left in the round, but Vaca made little effort to rise, being counted out by Cortez.

"This is the fight I wanted," said Honeyghan, who wore a cap that read "No Mercy." "If I couldn't get Vaca back in the ring, I don't think I would have continued to fight.

"In the third round I decided to settle down on my feet," added the new champion. "Mexicans have good chins, but they're not too tough to the body."

(3-29-88)

FOREMAN-QAWI

LAS VEGAS, NEVADA—THE promotional honeymoon between George Foreman and Top Rank may not be over, but it appears they might need a marriage counselor to avert a permanent split.

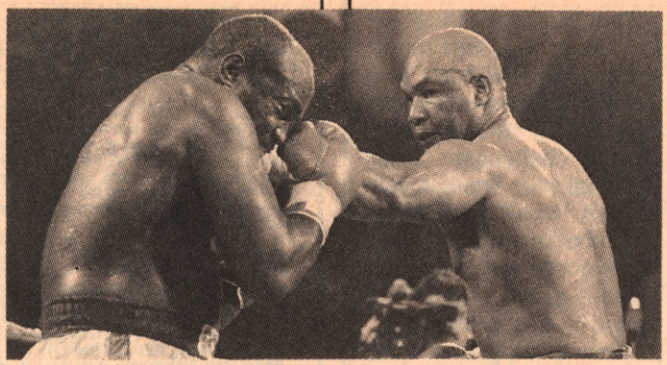
Foreman's unimpressive TKO victory over Dwight Qawi at Caesars Palace left veteran ringsiders dubious whether the former world heavyweight champion would ever reach a competitive level worthy to challenge Mike Tyson. After the Qawi victory, Bob Arum, Top Rank board chairman, reluctantly but wisely cancelled Foreman's scheduled undercard appearance at the Las Vegas Hilton June 6.

Arum said the move was made principally because the fighting preacher from Houston, Texas apparently refused to meet any credible opponents in a comeback that now includes eight straight victories, all against nondescript foes until Qawi.

"George is training his body, but he's not getting the sparring he needs to face a tough young fighter," said Arum. "It's not saleable to put Foreman in with another non-entity. George should take some off-TV fights on the road and come back to us when he's ready for a major opponent."

To his credit, Foreman, 235 (his lightest since embarking on the comeback trail), moved ever forward against the 222-pound Qawi, but looked ponderous of foot and slow of hand. More than anything else, it was Foreman's size which wore down the man once known as the "Camden Buzzsaw."

"Big George" landed often with his pole-like jab, but his punches lacked snap. Qawi also connected frequently with combinations to the head, winning the fourth and fifth rounds on all scorecards. However, "Big George" absorbed Qawi's best efforts without much trouble and kept plugging.



George Foreman rams his left jab into Dwight Qawi's face en route to a seventh-round TKO victory in Las Vegas. It was win number eight on the comeback trail, but the only people who seemed impressed were "Big George" and "Little Dwight."

PHOTO BY JOHN GRUZINSKI/NEVADA NEWS BUREAU

Qawi was still shaky in the seventh from a previous clubbing in the sixth. With Foreman's powerful arms flailing like pendulums, Qawi suddenly turned and tottered towards his own corner. Referee Carlos Padilla quickly took the cue, jumping in to end the monotony at 1:51 of Round Seven.

Foreman, earning $100,000, twice Qawi's alleged payday, was virtually unmarked in extending his ledger to 53-2 with 50 KOs. Qawi, former world light heavyweight and WBA junior heavyweight champion, skidded to 28-6-1 with 17 KOs.

Foreman's post-fight rhetoric is beginning to wear a little thin: "I didn't knock him out early, so they could get in all the TV commercials."

Someone should have told him there are no commercials in pay-per-view productions.

(3-19-88)

JACK WELSH

NORRIS-SNIPES
NABF Heavyweight Title

LAS VEGAS, NEVADA — Hopefully, Orlin Norris learned a valuable lesson the last time he came to town — something about the danger of letting a one-eyed opponent off the hook. That was the situation for the 22-year-old San Diego, California talent during the stretch run against veteran Renaldo Snipes on the Foreman-Qawi card at Caesars, where a second-half fade almost cost him the NABF crown.

Norris, 210, barely prevailed, squeaking out a unanimous 12-round decision in the first defense of the belt he won here last November at Bally's. But he needed a second-round knockdown over New Yorker Snipes to solidify the unpopular verdict.

Norris, who increased his pro credentials to 16-1 with eight KOs, was fully extended from the sixth round until the final bell. Snipes, 215, earned high marks and the cheers of the crowd for his courageous showing, but still saw his record drop to 28-7-1 with 15 KOs.

Norris dominated the first four rounds, dropping Snipes with a left-right combination to the head in Round Two. He later reported that he'd hurt his right hand in the second (probably on the knockdown) and it affected his power when Snipes came on with a belated rally.

Norris was in control during the early rounds when he opted to attack the body. He also scored well with a stinging left jab which caused Snipes' right eye to begin closing as early as the fifth. But Snipes, who has had only seven bouts in the last four years, moved into high gear in Round Eight. Though trailing by six points on all cards, Renaldo began to stick and move, forcing the tiring Norris to retreat.

Norris was trapped on the ropes several times in the late rounds. In the 11th,

Orlin Norris watches as Renaldo Snipes heads for the floor in the second round of their 12-round rumble for Norris' NABF heavyweight belt. Snipes got up to give Norris all he could handle, but still wound up on the wrong end of an unpopular decision.

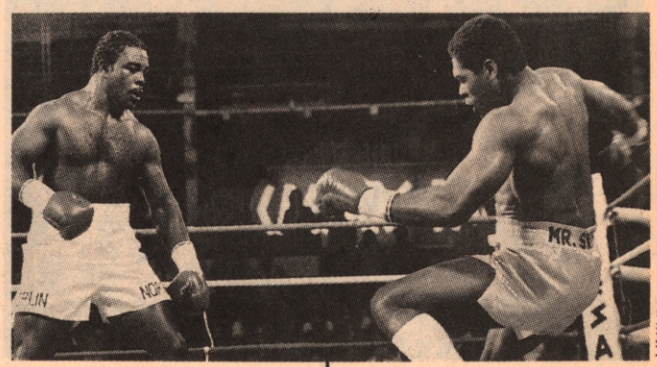


PHOTO BY CHRIS FARINA

Snipes appeared to stun him with a combination, but the NABF champ reached down for a little extra, catching Snipes coming in with a left-right-left to the head.

The sometimes sloppy but always entertaining bout drew a standing ovation at the final bell, but the decision was not greeted with so much enthusiasm. Judges Jerry Roth and Dave Moretti both tabbed it 115-112 for Norris, with judge Spider Bynum handing in a much closer 114-113 tally, also for Norris. Though the fans favored underdog Snipes and his late charge, *The Ring* also had Norris ahead, 115-113.

(3-19-88)

JACK WELSH

COOPER-FULILANGI
NABF Cruiserweight Title

LAS VEGAS, NEVADA — While it lasted, this one was a mini-version of the shootout at the "OK Corral." But when the thunder subsided, Bert Cooper was still standing as the NABF cruiserweight king.

Though dominating the first three rounds, Cooper, 191¼, Philadelphia, suddenly found himself in a fire fight in the fourth round when challenger Tony Fulilangi, a transplanted Tongan now based in Phoenix, Arizona, began unloading some of his own bombs and Cooper was forced to give ground.

Then it happened! Both launched heavy right-handed haymakers at the same time, but Cooper's rocket reached the target first and Fulilangi fell heavily on his right side, obviously badly hurt. He somehow managed to beat referee Toby Gibson's count, staggering to his feet at the count of eight. But when he lurched back against the ropes, Gibson wisely halted the scheduled 12-rounder 2:44 into Round Four.

Cooper, who made his third successful defense of the NABF belt, raised his log to 19-2 with 16 KOs, while the dead game Fulilangi dipped to 39-2-2 with 36 KOs. Both men gave the crowd a brief but thrilling demonstration of power punching. Cooper garnered a reported $25,000 purse, with Fulilangi pulling down $12,500. Both earned their money.

Tony Fulilangi (left) and "Smokin'" Bert Cooper trade hooks during their short but thrilling punchout on the Foreman-Qawi card. Cooper retained the NABF cruiserweight crown with a fourth-round kayo.

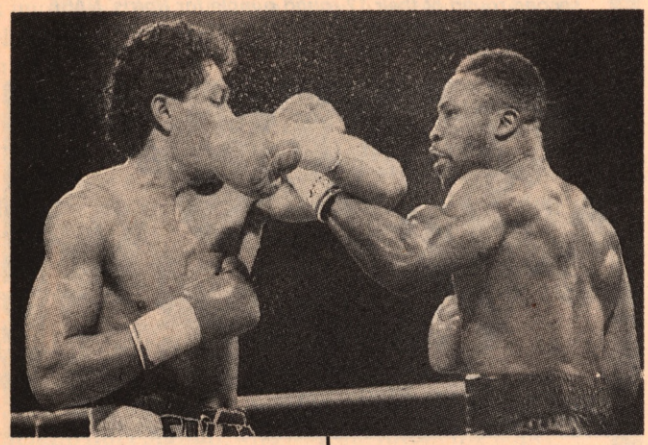


PHOTO BY JOHN GRUZINSKI/NEVADA NEWS BUREAU

In the fourth featured bout on the Foreman-Qawi bill, Michael Nunn made the second successful defense of his NABF middleweight title, chilling veteran warhorse Curtis Parker just 58 seconds into Round Two of a scheduled 12.

Though they were non-commital, WBC kingpin Thomas Hearns and WBA counterpart Sumbu Kalambay had to be impressed with Nunn's handiwork at Caesars Palace. Though IBF middleweight boss Frank Tate didn't join the aforementioned pair ringside for the festivities, it is his third of the 160-pound title Nunn will probably go after first.

Nunn, who is rapidly shaking his image as a light-punching dancer, wasted little time finishing Parker, a brave warrior who is well past his prime. Nunn dominated the opening round with combinations to the head and body. Parker, standing 5 ft. 10 in., couldn't reach his 6 ft. 2 in. rival with much of anything and was reduced to soaking up punishment.

Parker, 159, Philadelphia, almost put Nunn through the ropes with a head-down charge at the start of Round Two and the pair ended up tangled with referee Carlos Padilla. Soon after, Nunn delivered a left uppercut which sliced open Parker's right eye and left him rolling face down on the canvas for the count of 10.

"I'm not a kayo artist," reflected Nunn. "I don't brag, but if I hit any middleweight in the world the right way, he'll go."

Promoter: Top Rank, Inc.
TV: pay-per-view
Attendance: 2,105
Live gate: $136,275

(3-19-88)

JACK WELSH

RAMIREZ-WHITAKER
WBC Lightweight Title

PARIS — PERNELL WHITAKER claims he broke his left hand in the fourth round of his WBC lightweight title fight with Jose Luis Ramirez. You couldn't tell it by his performance.

Whitaker's heart was broken after the 12-rounder. You could tell it by the decision.

In a verdict that could only be described as outrageous, Ramirez was awarded a split decision that enabled him to retain his belt and possibly set up a match with the WBA titleholder, fellow-Mexican Julio Cesar Chavez. English judge Harry Gibbs cast the lone vote on target, though even he was generous to Ramirez, giving Whitaker a 117-113 edge. France's Luis Michel somehow favored Ramirez, 116-115, but that was nothing compared to Brazil's Newton Campos, who had Ramirez on top 118-113. *The Ring* scored 120-109, giving Whitaker every round but the fifth which was judged even.

Upon hearing the decision, Whitaker's manager, Lou Duva, who has been known to blow a cork on occasion, sailed into a tirade that practically accused WBC president Jose Sulaiman of fixing the scoring to preserve the Chavez/Ramirez bout for his homeland.

"Sulaiman is nothing but a x%#@&?*$! thief," yelled Duva. "He gave those guys orders."

The "loss" was the first suffered by Whitaker, who followed his 1984 Olympic gold medal as a lightweight with 15 straight pro wins. The 29-year-old Mexican titleholder received victory No. 101 against six losses. He started his pro career in 1973 at the age of 14.

Ramirez is in his second reign as WBC titleholder. He stopped Edwin Rosario in 1984 to win the crown, but lost it in his first defense against Hector Camacho. He won the vacant crown last year, decisioning Terrence Alli. He weighed the class limit of 135, ¼-pound more than Whitaker, who resides in Norfolk, Virginia.

The 24-year-old challenger, noted for his speed, made the slow-moving Ramirez seem as if he was standing still from the first bell. Ramirez may have landed five solid shots the entire 12 rounds, and they had no apparent effect on the ever-moving Whitaker.

The pattern was set from the outset, Whitaker circling to his right with Ramirez following him around the ring. That Ramirez was the aggressor throughout is unquestionable. But he rarely threw a punch as the right jab of Whitaker's beat a steady tattoo on his face. When Ramirez did unload, the punch usually sailed over Whitaker, who would

then unleash a three- or four-punch combination that seldom failed to reach its target.

Whitaker claimed later he broke his left hand in the fourth round, and Ramirez did have his best frame in the fifth. Still, Whitaker was beating Ramirez silly with his jab alone, and the challenger threw many lefts after the fourth, some of which did serious damage.

In the fifth, Ramirez opened with a sense of growing desperation. He scored with several good punches, then, midway through the round, landed his best punch of the fight, a straight left to the jaw of Whitaker, who was backing away with his hands down. Ramirez pursued, scoring with another left, but Whitaker answered back with several stiff jabs delivered rapid-fire followed by a strong left that thudded against the side of Ramirez' jaw. Before the round concluded, Whitaker was back in control, punctuating his return to command with another quick combination that scored well just before the bell.

Right to the final bell the pattern continued. If anything, Whitaker seemed to get stronger as the rounds progressed and Ramirez wearied of the chase.

The decision was greeted accordingly, even by the Parisians, who have made Ramirez an adopted son. Gibbs' vote, the first announced, was cheered heartily. The following two scores were booed lustily. Whitaker dropped to his knees in disbelief, and even Ramirez seemed stunned.

On the undercard, Kayumba and Ben Sayell fought to a six-round draw in a lightweight bout.

Lightweight Christian Merle stopped Fred Gallouze in one.

Lightweight Jean Gomis won a six-round decision over Andrade Silva.

Lightweight Joe Gamache decisioned Samuel Meck over eight.

Jean Baptiste Mendy knocked out Angel Luis Garcia in the third of still another lightweight bout.

(3-12-88)

ROCCHIGIANI-BOULWARE
IBF Super Middleweight Title

DUESSELDORF, GERMANY—A Wilfried Sauerland promotion featuring his star performer, Graciano Rocchigiani, provided German boxing with a much-needed shot of adrenalin.

The anxious lines at the ticket windows, the overflow parking lots and the capacity crowd of 6,000 in Philips Hall provided a most unusual occasion here.

The 24-year-old southpaw Rocchigiani became Germany's third world titleholder, stopping American Vincent Boulware in eight rounds to win the vacant IBF super middleweight title. Forgetting Rene Weller's one-round KO over James Ortega in 1983 for the WAA super featherweight crown, the only two Germans to hold world titles previous to Rocchigiani were Max Schmeling, who won the world heavyweight championship in 1930, and Eckhard Dagge, who became the WBC light middleweight titleholder in 1976.

Boulware was forced to shed some weight to make the 168-pound limit and this, plus the German's southpaw stance, perhaps contributed to Boulware's poor performance.

In Round Five a left landed flush on Boulware's closing right optic, bringing a trickle of blood to the surface. The American had rough passage in the third and seventh, but, though badly shaken, refused to go down.

A dynamite left to the body shook Boulware in Round Eight and his fellow countryman, referee Jo Santarpia, saw cause to wave it over at 2:11. It was noticeable that the American did not protest the stoppage significantly.

The German often tormented his opponent, dropping his gloves and inviting Boulware to hit him. On one occasion, Rocchigiani even stuck out his tongue. Rounds one, five and six could have been booked even, but the remainder were clearly in favor of the German.

For Sauerland, who is also Rocchigiani's manager, this was the sixth world title fight involving one of his fighters, with Rocchigiani being the first to emerge victorious. Rocchigiani won 107 of 120 amateur starts and is undefeated in 24 pro bouts. Boulware lost 11 of 173 amateur contests and this defeat was just his second in his 21-bout pro career.

Light heavyweight Lindell Holmes of Detroit knocked out Lotte Mwale, Kitwe, Zambia, in the eighth round. In a hard fight, Holmes knew a little too much for Mwale and was certainly the harder puncher, although he did not deck his opponent until the final round. Mwale went down to rest on one knee, but it didn't seem he'd been hit particularly hard. He just didn't seem to have the resolve to stay in the fight, and he remained on one knee while third man Kurt Stroer counted him out.

Holmes, the smaller man who has lost only five of 40 bouts, was warned a couple of times for hitting low. Mwale suffered his fifth defeat in 41 starts.

Explosive-hitting southpaw German welterweight champion Jose Varela took his score to 30-1 when he blasted out Detroit's 33-year-old Marc Stevens with a left hook to the jaw in 2:35. As Stevens tried to make his feet, he fell back on the seat of his pants and was counted out by referee Michael Fischer. Surprisingly, the American was around long enough to cut the German's right eyebrow.

Rick Keller, a 29-year-old heavyweight from America, came out on the short end of a controversial draw over six rounds with ex-German heavyweight champion Thomas Classen. The verdict was not well received, with many fans switching to the visitor due to his gritty stand. Keller hit harder, but was unable to deck the German, who is making a comeback after retiring and vacating his crown in 1986. He has lost just two of 21 bouts.

In a heavyweight affair, the African champion, Mike Simuwelu, Lusaka, Zambia, had his first taste of defeat in 19 bouts, being KO'd by Florida champion David Jaco in the opening round. A right hand decked Simuwelu, who hit his head on the canvas upon landing. After two more visits to the boards from hard rights, German third man Kurt Stroer counted him out. Jaco, who has had 40 engagements with 28 wins, has been stopped by Mike Tyson, Jose Ribalta, Tony Tucker and Carl Williams, among others, but does hold an eight-round TKO win over Canada's Razor Ruddock, who is ranked No. 5 by the WBC.

The 38-year-old Klaus Winter became the German cruiserweight champion by knocking out 26-year-old Karl Heinz Heistermann in just 26 seconds. A right to the jaw caught Heistermann cold and referee Siegi Hahn counted him out as Heistermann suffered his first loss in six bouts.

In a heavyweight four-rounder, Darco Stanojevic of Titograd, Yugoslavia, decisioned German Hans Gimborn to even his record in Germany at 1-1. Gimborn suffered his ninth loss in 16 bouts.

At light heavy, 26-year-old Nelson Alex Alves outscored Agamili Yilderim over six rounds in the scrap of the undercard. Alves was born in Chile and is unbeaten in six bouts. Yilderim is a Turk who lost his 10th in 31 starts.

Matchmakers: Ebby Thust & Jean Marcel Nartz.

Timekeepers: Gerd Riethenauer & Edgar Satura.

Physicians: Walter Wagner & Alois Teuber.

(3-11-88)

JACK TREE

FENECH-CALLEJAS
WBC Featherweight Title

SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA—THE knockers and doubters now finally agree, Jeff Fenech is a great fighter.

At the Sydney Entertainment Centre he silenced the skeptics with a 10-round stoppage of Puerto Rican Victor Callejas to win the WBC featherweight title left vacant by Azumah Nelson, who moved up in weight. The same day, Fenech had relinquished his WBC super bantamweight throne. In 1985, Fenech won the IBF bantamweight title thus this latest victory adds him to the ever-growing list of boxers who have held world titles in three weight divisions. Before the year ends, he will probably join Thomas Hearns as a titleholder in four weight classes.

Callejas, who won the WBA junior featherweight title with a KO over Loris Stecca in May, 1984, defended it twice and relinquished it, came here with a record of 23-1-1, the loss coming in his first fight. He reversed that defeat in his second outing and had been unbeaten since, with 20 KOs, the draw being of the technical variety.

Callejas featured a hard and fast left hook, but Fenech dominated the encounter from Round One, decking Callejas twice on the way to total annihilation. Fenech came out fighting like Henry Armstrong and maintained that style through the whole encounter. He never tired, but

just kept coming, throwing punches. But he did stand and weave, making Callejas miss punches in bunches.

Callejas did land his renowned left hook in Round One, but Fenech simply stepped back, lowered his hands and acknowledged it, then tore back into action. Fenech thrashed Callejas in Round Two, then decked him in the next round, belting him to the ropes before hammering him to the canvas.

Fenech beat Callejas at every turn, but the Puerto Rican showed great courage. However, he did, in desperation, adopt rough tactics at times, on one occasion kneeing Fenech in the groin. But fouling the Australian is foolish because Fenech replies in kind, then increases his punching output to really punish the opposition.

When the bell rang for Round Six, Fenech came out of his corner like a bullet. Callejas' chief second was still in the ring, but referee Richard Steele told Fenech to box on. Rightly so, for when the bell rings to start a round the fight should resume — by the rules. Fenech had been held back previously by other overseas referees in similar circumstances. But Steele should be congratulated on his performance. On more than one occasion, Steele pushed Callejas' second to the ropes at the start of rounds.

Fenech clipped Callejas with a hook in Round Eight, and the Puerto Rican's feet left the canvas as though they had been yanked with a rope. On both knockdowns, Callejas regained his feet early in the count, but by Round Nine Callejas appeared sick and was definitely an insurance risk. Still, he battled on, finally falling apart in Round 10, at which time Steele jumped in and rescued him at exactly the right moment. The clock read 1:21.

At the close of Round Nine, the judges' cards were strongly in favor of Fenech, Ray Solis seeing it 90-79, Harold Lederman, 89-80, and Giuseppe Ferrari, 90-81. *The Ring* had it 90-78.

Later it was discovered Fenech, who improved to 20-0 with 16 knockouts, had won with two injured hands. Both were badly swollen, the right hand being damaged as early as Round Two. Still, he dominated to win his third title in just 20 bouts, the first having been won just 196 days after he turned pro. And he is not finished.

The main support was a 12-rounder between Peter Mitrevski and Charlie Brown for the vacant Australian junior bantamweight bauble. Each scaled 113½ for the good battle that ended at the conclusion of Round Eight when the doctor advised stoppage due to Brown's cut eye. The injury was caused by an accidental clash of heads, so the cards were collected. All three judges had Mitrevski ahead, Gerry Lowe scoring 80-74, Des Boyd, 79-72, and Ray Wheatley, 80-75, and he was declared victorious.

Over 10 rounds American Jesse Shelby, 179½, outpointed Australian junior light heavyweight champion Doug Sam, 175¾, with scores of 99-90, 99-93 and 99-89.

Over eight rounds Australian junior lightweight champion Tony Miller, 128, drew with Puerto Rican Nelson Rodriguez, 128. It was a hard fight, rather rough at times, with the cards split three ways.

Paul Edwards, 161¾, outpointed Vito Gaudiosi, 161½, over four rounds.

Promoters: Bill Mordey & Don King.

Attendance: 12,000.

(3-7-88)

RAY MITCHELL

BRAZIER-BLAKE

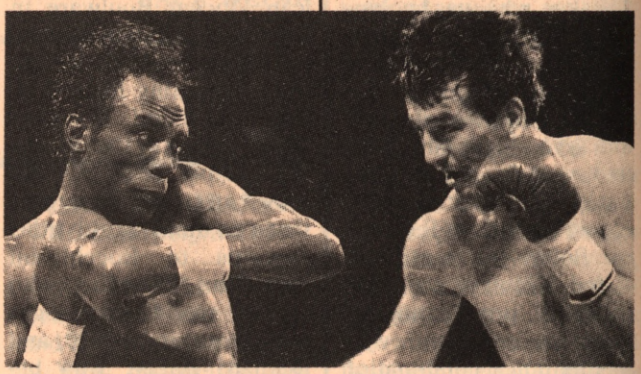
NABF Jr. Welterweight Title

LAS VEGAS, NEVADA — IT was appropriate that Harold Brazier took a jet back to Indiana after an impressive Las Vegas debut. Understandably, the 32-year-old had to be flying high after that big night at Bally's Hotel/Casino on the Strip.

Brazier had to be having good thoughts about a future that should include Roger Mayweather or any other world titleholder scheduled for a mandatory defense at 140 pounds.

The soft-spoken South Bend, Indiana ring general further solidified his status as the WBC's number one contender by taking apart tenacious Rockin' Robin Blake in what was also a defense of Brazier's NABF junior welterweight title.

Top Rank's scheduled 12-round main event gave a national TV audience, courtesy of ESPN, a full shot of fistic fury as Brazier rebounded from a flash knockdown to hammer a bleeding Blake into a TKO victim at 1:32 of the ninth round.



Harold Brazier (left) earned a shot at Roger Mayweather's WBC super lightweight title by scoring a ninth-round TKO over "Rockin'" Robin Blake at Bally's in Las Vegas.

PHOTO BY CHRIS FARINA

Billy Baxter, Mayweather's manager, had said before the fight, "We'd be glad to oblige either Brazier or Blake in May or June if Top Rank comes up with the money." But after watching the fluid counterpunching Brazier, Baxter could be understandably apprehensive.

Blake, 139¼, returning to Las Vegas for the first time in three years, was a study in courage, having picked up a cut on his right eye in the third round. The wound steadily worsened, but the pride of Fort Worth, Texas took advantage of Brazier, 139½, having early trouble with his timing and put the Hoosier flat on his back for the first time in his career with a lightning left in the eighth round.

The unmarked Brazier, who improved his credentials to 54-7-1 with 39 KOs, had nothing but honest praise for the comebacking, 25-year-old Blake, who dipped to 30-5 with 21 KOs in suffering the second stoppage in his career.

"Blake is a fast-handed fighter," said Brazier. "You have to be on your toes. You can study all the tapes you want, but you still have to get inside on a tall (six-foot) fighter like that. The biggest problem was Blake being a southpaw and getting my timing together because early I was short when Blake leaned back.

"The knockdown didn't hurt me, but I was disoriented for a second," Brazier added. "Robin's still a world-class fighter and it took a lot to beat him. I didn't want it to go to the scorecards. I wanted to be my own judge. Out here anything is possible. I know they sometimes favor fighters well known on TV."

Brazier's concern was well-founded. At the time of the stoppage, Dalby Shirley of Las Vegas had Blake on top, 76-75, while Bob Watson of Detroit had Blake in front, 77-75. Patricia Jarman of Vegas had it 77-76 for

Brazier.

Dave Gorman, who has guided Blake since 1981, said, "Brazier proved what he was after we floored him. Robin tried his hardest. I'm proud of him, and he will be back. I'll admit it was a gamble going against the number one contender, but I feel Blake is still one of the top men in the division. He doesn't belong in those backroad fights. We'll take a three-month rest and you'll see Robin Blake fighting again."

There was a small consolation for the Blake family in the final bout of the night when Rowdy Roddy, Robin's 26-year-old brother, knocked out Johnny Bryant in the first round for his seventh KO in a 7-1 record. Blake weighed 141, Bryant, 138.

Dan Schommer, 159, Minneapolis, was the epitome of brevity in his Las Vegas debut as he knocked out Rocky Cebreros, 161, Mexicali, Mexico, at 2:42 of the first round of a scheduled eight. Schommer improved his credentials to 16-0, 13 KOs, when he knocked down the outclassed Cebreros with a right to the jaw, then stretched him flat on his back with a left hook. Cebreros dropped to 9-7 with five KOs.

Henry Anaya, Jr., 148, Albuquerque, New Mexico, had to hold off the late rally of Anthony White, 147½, Fort Worth, for a unanimous, six-round decision that lifted his record to 7-0 with three KOs.

Eloy Montano, 135½, Albuquerque, scored a TKO at the end of the second round when Pablo S. Montano, 136, Tucson, couldn't answer the bell for the third in a booked four-rounder. The two are not related.

Michael Moorer, 172, Detroit, Michigan, made his pro debut out of the Kronk gym with a first-round TKO over Adrian Riggs, 172, Las Vegas, at 2:26, scheduled for four.

(3-4-88)

JACK WELSH

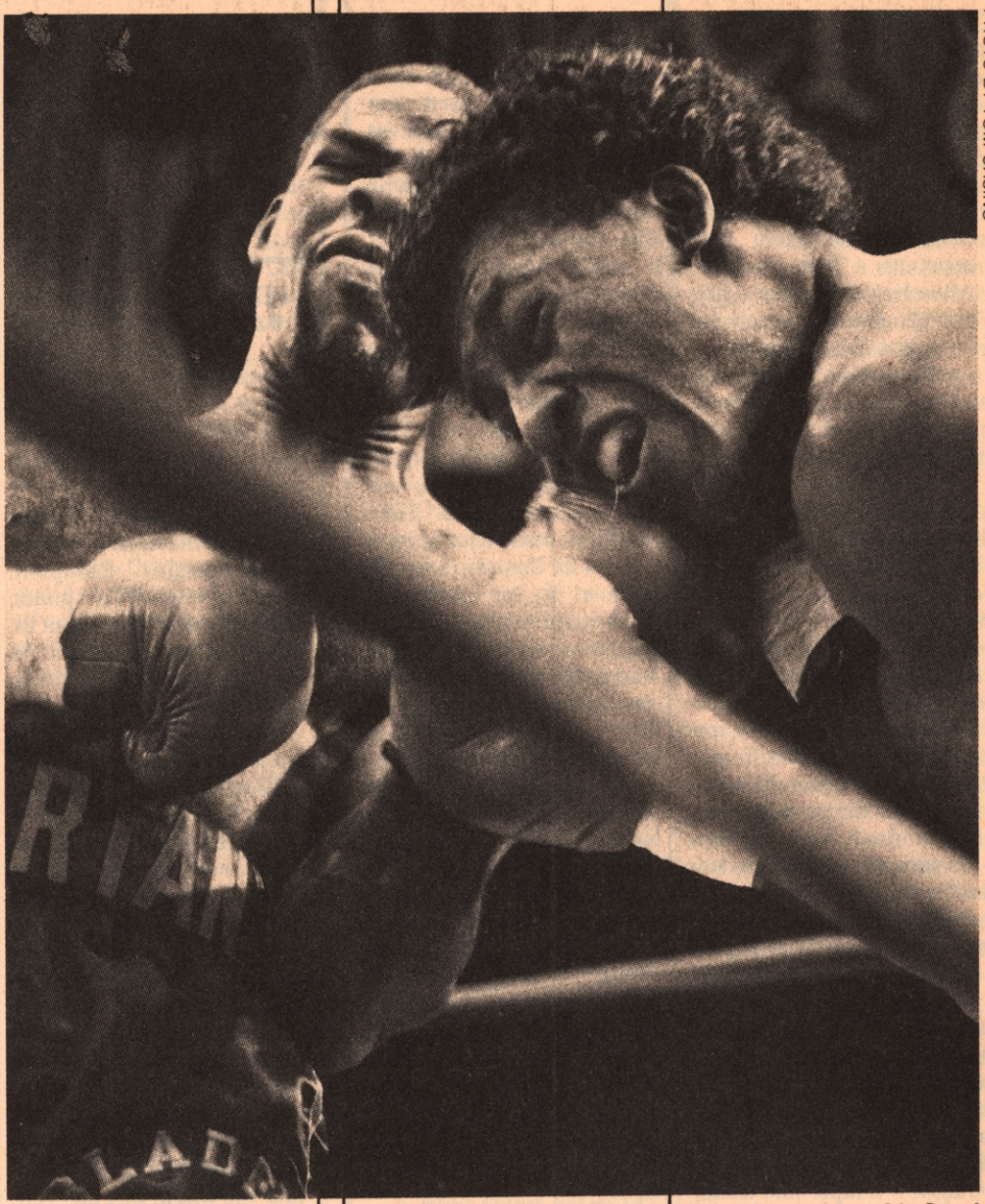


PHOTO BY TOM CASINO

Iran "The Blade" Barkley nails Michael "The Silk" Olajide flush in the face with a left uppercut. Barkley's upset victory earned him a shot at Thomas Hearns' WBC middleweight title.

BARKLEY-OLAJIDE

NEW YORK CITY—IT WAS JUST one of those days. In the prelims, local hero Tunde Foster got the living doo-doo kicked out of him by some unknown and came away with a barely deserved draw; there was a break of about 90 minutes between the last prelim and the main go because the TV folks weren't ready to telecast yet; a terrified girl from Long Island who'd won some sort of teen talent contest broke down twice in attempting to sing the National Anthem. Something was up.

Iran Barkley, who everyone in the know agreed was a slow, shopworn palooka with no chance in the world, stormed into the ring looking pumped up as all get out in his demonic black and red trunks and was lustily cheered by the crowd. Michael Olajide Jr., exciting, theatrical, and the bookies' heavy favorite, came in looking very odd indeed: dry, tight, grey in the face as though he hadn't slept in a couple days, appearing almost to be hiding behind his iridescent metallic robe and trunks. Loud boos thundered down, to his obvious astonishment. Something was definitely up.

Olajide was supposed to stick and move, befuddling the clumsy, easily ruffled Barkley and taking an easy decision or a late kayo. Instead, he flailed at his advancing opponent, missing everything and repeatedly leaving himself open for Iran's jarring left hooks. The first round was clearly Barkley's.

The pattern continued in the second, Olajide finally

taking one left hook too many and crashing over sideways for a count of three. Suddenly, the middleweight division's "Next Big Thing" looked like a peashooter up against a .357.

Olajide came out for the third with his feet wide apart as a boxer will do when he only wants to stay upright. Barkley, utterly on his game, hit him with everything, even rocking him with jabs. Barkley's contingent was going crazy; the few Olajide fans sat silent, sick and hopeless.

Midway through the fourth, which had been more of the same, the two men metamorphosed into one another for one-tenth of a second. Suddenly, impossibly, a crazy left swing smashed into Barkley's cheek and put him in a heap at the feet of his all-but-defeated adversary. But things were back to normal even before Barkley got to his feet. Iran still looked cool, Michael scared and whipped. Both scored in the final minute of that round, but the lightning-bolt knockdown hadn't changed a thing.

Barkley roared out like a cannonball for the fifth round and without any delay applied the finisher, a left hook that landed on Olajide's temple like a canteloupe dropped from a 45-story building. Olajide hurtled to the floor, eyes wide open and crazy, looking for all the world like Mr. Clean being machine-gunned in "Apocalypse Now." He got up at six, but was unable to keep Barkley from forcing him to the ropes and pounding away with both hands. It was clear that Olajide wanted to spin out, but his legs wouldn't obey him; he couldn't throw a punch, either, and ref Arthur Mercante Jr. stopped the fight at 1:12. It had been scheduled for 10 and had been calculated to put Olajide back into the middleweight picture. Instead, it consigned him, at least temporarily, to the wilderness. Barkley is now expected to make an almost certainly futile start against Thomas Hearns in June.

Olajide admitted after the fight that he hadn't felt right for several days.

"Something was wrong with my equilibrium," he said. He manfully acknowledged that Barkley had been the better fighter, and added, "My career is hard to evaluate right now." Barkley was equally gracious to his victim and seemed to be by far the least-surprised person in the press room. Indeed, he had really done nothing unusual: He simply fought his fight, only far better than he'd ever fought it before.

Barkley, who weighed a heavier-than-usual 161, is now 23-5, 14 kayoes; Olajide, 159½, is 25-2, 17 kayoes. Both men hail from New York City.

Felix Santiago (148, Brooklyn) stopped Joe Edens (149, Nashville) at 1:05 of the fourth in a scheduled eight. Edens, now 12-6, five kayoes, fought his usual fight: utterly courageous, utterly unskilled. He took a terrible beating and was down from two right hands just before the stoppage. The workmanlike Santiago is now 17-1-1, 13 kayoes. Joe Santarpia refereed.

Glenwood Brown (146, Plainfield, N.J.) stopped Keheven Johnson (148, Oklahoma City) at 0:54 of the second, scheduled eight. Johnson was down twice in the second, for about a minute the second time. Brown stayed unbeaten at 17-0, 14 kayoes, and should step up a bit in quality of opposition. Johnson is 7-8-1, one kayo. Santarpia refereed.

Foster (135, Brooklyn) only just managed to draw with Bryant Paden (135, Philadelphia) in a helluva eight-rounder. Foster scored well enough to win some rounds, but the real damage was done by Paden, who rocked Foster repeatedly with countering rights and had him on the verge of a kayo in the final round. Judge Tony Castellano had Foster on top, 5-3; judges Barbara Perez and Victor Suarez agreed on a 4-4 score. *The Ring* also had it 4-4, but gave the nod to Paden on points, 5-4. Foster's now 14-0-1, 10 kayoes; Paden is 10-3-1, three kayoes. Charlie Norkus refereed.

Art Tucker (212, Newark, N.J.) went to 9-0-1, seven kayoes, with a one-round clean kayo of Bruce Johnson (193, Youngstown, Ohio). A left to the body was the decisive blow; the time was 1:13. Mercante refereed.

In a display of earnest ineptitude, Derrick Rolon (147, Elizabeth, N.J.) won every round on all three cards (and this unofficial one) in taking a six-round decision from Tony Rorie (148½, Wallingford, Conn.) Rolon's unbeaten at 6-0, three kayoes; Rorie is 3-3, one kayo. Norkus refereed.

Eddie Cruz (186, Brooklyn) won his pro debut with a two-round stoppage of Traore Ali (194, New York City), who is now 2-2. The deciding blow was struck while both men were leaping through the air: it was that kind of fight.

Timekeeper: Cecilio Pedraja.

Announcer: Ed Derian.

Promoter: Madison Square Garden Boxing.
Matchmaker: Bob Goodman.
Attendance: 3,000 (est.).
(3-6-88)

JOSEPH D'O'BRIAN

PINANGO-GERVACIO
WBA Jr. Featherweight Title

SAN JUAN, PUERTO RICO — In one of the most controversial affairs celebrated in this island in a very long time, Venezuelan Bernardo Pinango, the former world bantamweight champion, annexed the WBA junior featherweight title when he defeated Julio Gervacio in 12 rounds in Roberto Clemente Stadium.

Gervacio was the constant aggressor, though he appeared over-anxious and did not reflect the coolness under fire he had shown in his title-winning effort against Louie Espinoza. Pinango, on the other hand, seemed to be biding his time and was content with countering. Though Pinango took a few of the middle rounds, Gervacio appeared to have a slight edge after 10. His left jab, left hook and short uppercuts were continually hitting the mark, but the Venezuelan was cute in retreat and as the bout progressed began to counter with greater effectiveness.

The Gervacio downfall commenced in the 11th when an alleged butt produced a badly lacerated right eye. This created chaos on the Gervacio side and new life and vigor in the Pinango camp. The Venezuelan battered his rival in the 11th and dropped him in the 12th to take the decision, Canadian judge Guy Jutras scoring for Pinango by 115-114, Miami's Mark Scheckner going for Pinango, 114-113, while Eva Shain of New Jersey had it 114-114.

Promoter Pepito Cordero howled for justice, claiming his protege had been butted in the 11th and pushed down in the last round. He hoped that, with the backing of the Puerto Rican Boxing Commission, he would receive the benefit of a rematch for Gervacio. But Venezuelan WBA president Gilberto Mendoza would have none of this.

Then a new uproar was created when a post-fight drug test revealed traces of cocaine in Pinango's system. Puerto Rican Commission doctor Roberto Kutcher said the samples were signed by Pinango's trainer, Melquiades Sanz, which Sanz later denied. Reportedly, WBA fight supervisor Jimmy Binns was not present as required when the samples were taken.

Results of Pinango's test have been sent to WBA headquarters in Venezuela and Puerto Rican Commission president Luis Salas has urged the WBA to declare the title vacant or order an immediate rematch. Pinango gave up his bantamweight world championship last year, retiring suddenly. Problems making weight was the announced cause, but rumors of drug abuse surfaced. Now, the Puerto Rico Commission has banned him for a year, with the exception of a rematch with Gervacio, if that is so ordered by the WBA.

Controversy permeated the undercard, also, when Angel Luis Garcia was denied a second-round knockout of France's Jean Baptist Mendy, who entered the match ranked sixth in the junior lightweight division by the WBA. Garcia was expected to be an easy touch, but a right to the jaw dropped Mendy and, although he was in a kneeling position, he failed to get up in time and referee Roberto Ramirez counted him out.

However, Garcia wound up having to be content with a no contest ruling. This was provoked by a replay that showed Mendy receiving a couple of light blows after he had visited the canvas. The French corner also accused Ramirez of a quick count and claimed Mendy could not understand his hand-count signals!

Italian lightweight Valerio Nati scored a second-round KO of Ricky West, who started fast but proved no match for the Italian.

Another 10 saw Tunisian lightweight Kamel Bou Ali stop local Julio Cesar Gonzalez with a right to the head in the first round.

Welterweight Danny Garcia continued his winning streak when he stopped tough Dominican Jose Benitez in the seventh round.

In a return bout, bantamweight prospect Wilfredo Vargas scored an impressive win over Miguel Santos in six heats. The stubborn Santos had given Vargas trouble in their previous meeting, but this time there was no doubt Vargas was the winner.

The opening four saw Javier Delgado score a 39-second KO over Miguel Rivera.
(3-5-88)

MARIO RIVERA MARTINO

KALAMBAY-MCCALLUM
WBA Middleweight Title

PESARO, ITALY — AFRICAN Sumbu Kalambay, now based in Italy, continued to strengthen his claim to the vacant world middleweight championship with a surprisingly close, 12-round decision over previously undefeated Mike McCallum.

Kalambay won unanimously in beating his third top 10 opponent in a year —Kalambay had previously beaten England's Herol Graham and New York's Iran Barkley — as the 31-year-old improved to 43-3-1. And though he appeared to have a comfortable margin, even larger than the 118-114 score turned in by Puerto Rico's Cesar Ramos, Kalambay was given just a one-point margin by Venezuelan judge Fernando Viso, who scored 116-115, and Rogelio Perez of Panama, who had it 115-114.

The scoring was difficult to understand as the slick Kalambay turned in a seemingly flawless performance in outboxing the plodding McCallum. Indeed, it was difficult believing it was the same McCallum who had knocked out 29 of his previous 32 opponents.

McCallum, 158¾, stalked Kalambay, 159, but hardly ever hit him. When he did land some body punches, British referee John Coyle warned him to keep them up, and this may have discouraged any thought of a continued attack on the midsection. Meanwhile, Kalambay painted McCallum's face with his jab and landed often to the head with a follow-up right. One such right shook McCallum as the 10th round neared conclusion, but the bell saved the Jamaican further damage.

By the start of the final round, McCallum's cornermen were telling their charge he needed a knockout to win. But Kalambay, probably figuring he was comfortably ahead, refused to get involved in a slugfest and contented himself with continuing the boxing lesson he had been delivering all night.

On the undercard, featherweight Museta Bingunia stopped Capri Lipkin in three rounds.

Lightweight Luca De Lorenzi stopped Harold Romero in three.

Middleweight Nazario Mariotti won a six-round decision over Giuseppe Cali.

Welterweight Samuel Isiko decisioned Za Dindia Mbeke over six.

Featherweight Vincenzo Belcastro decisioned Ley Umba Sengy over six.
(3-5-88)

NELSON-MARTINEZ
WBC Super Featherweight Title

ZARAGOZA-ZARATE
WBC Super Bantamweight Title

LOS ANGELES — HAVING vacated his WBC featherweight title, Ghana's Azumah Nelson immediately captured the vacant WBC super featherweight title in an unimpressive, split 12-round decision victory over Mario "Azabache" Martinez of Mexico in the Inglewood Forum.

On the same bill, Mexican Daniel Zaragoza captured the vacant WBC super bantamweight title, stopping countryman Carlos Zarate in the 10th of another scheduled 12.

The crowd of 8,442 unloaded when the decision giving Nelson the title was announced and showers of beer accompanied the loud chorus of boos, drenching ringside, including Don King. Judge Marty Samonn scored for Martinez, 114-113, but the other two judges, Rudy Ortega and Terry Smith, each carded 115-113 for Nelson, who improved his record to 27-1 as Martinez dipped to 46-4.

Nelson, at 130 a half-pound heavier than Martinez, was knocked down by a left hook in the 10th round and many felt he was outhustled over the long haul as the fans often booed the lack of action.

"When I heard it was a split decision, I knew I'd won it," said Nelson. I wasn't hurt when I got knocked down, but it was a direct shot."

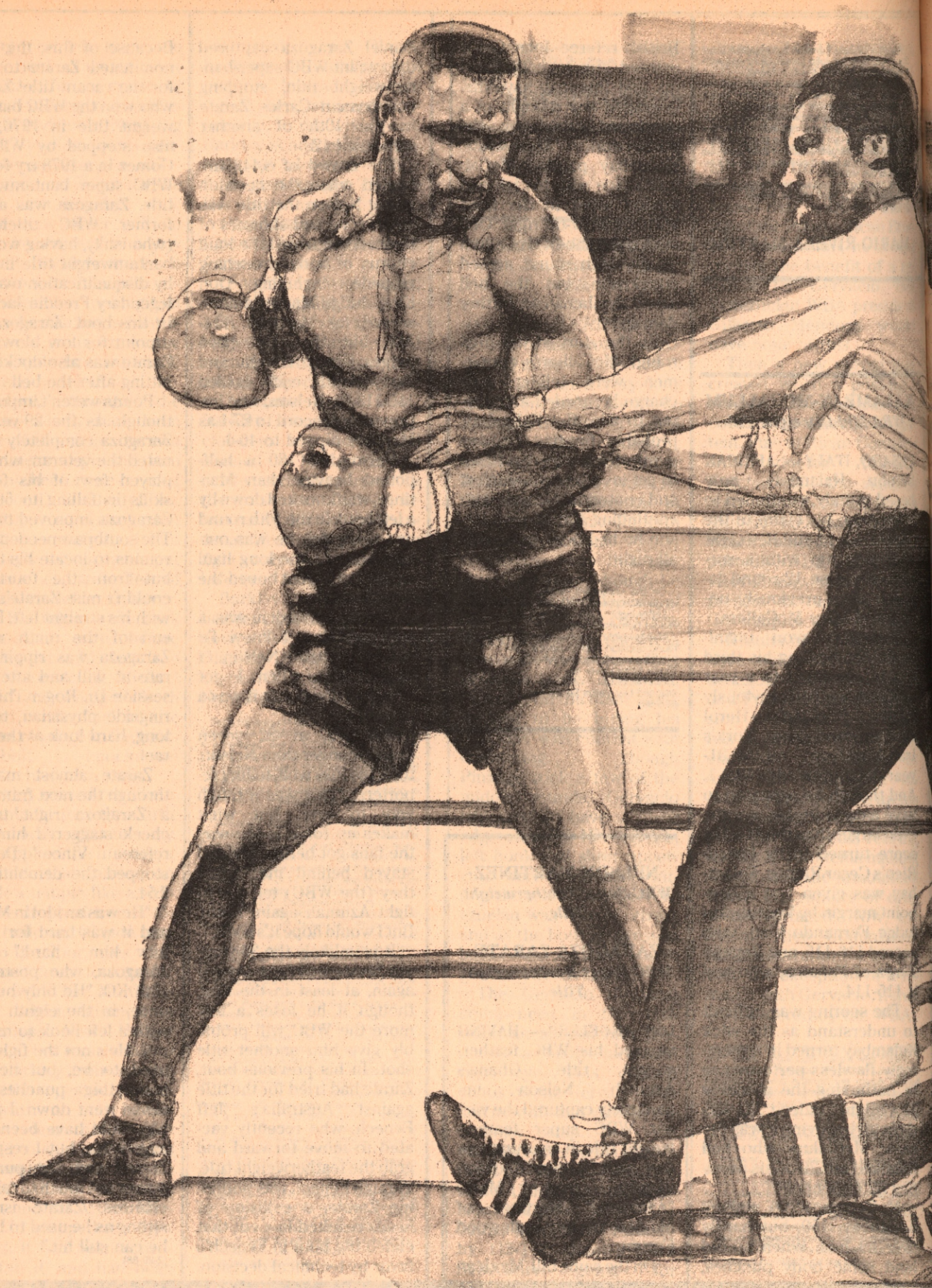
Martinez, at 22 seven years younger than Nelson, took the loss well, telling reporters, "This was a tough way to lose. But what makes up for it is the way the fans got behind me and stayed behind me. When they (the WBC) tell me to fight Azumah again, I will. But I would hope it's soon."

It is unlikely the 36-year-old Zarate will fight anyone again, at least in the ring, though if he loses a few more the WBC will probably give him another title shot. In his previous bout, Zarate had tried for the title against Australia's Jeff Fenech, who recently vacated to move forward and grab the featherweight title. Though Fenech was pounding Zarate, a collision of heads resulted in a cut that ended the bout in Fenech's favor by technical decision. Because of this, the WBC nominated Zarate to fight for the vacant title! Zarate, who won the WBC bantamweight title in 1976, was also stopped by Wilfredo Gomez in a 1978 try for the WBC super bantamweight title. Zaragoza was also a former WBC titleholder (who isn't), having won the bantamweight title in 1985 by disqualification over the legendary Freddie Jackson. In this bout, Zaragoza lost a point for low blows, but Zarate was also docked for hitting after the bell.

Points weren't important, though, as the 29-year-old Zaragoza completely dominated the veteran, who displayed few of his former skills in falling to 59-4 as Zaragoza improved to 33-4. The southpaw needed a few rounds to locate his target, but from the fourth on couldn't miss Zarate's head with his straight left. By the end of the ninth round, Zaragoza was ripping Zarate at will and after that session Dr. Roger Thill, the ringside physician, took a long, hard look at the veteran.

Zarate almost made it through the next frame, but a Zaragoza right to the cheek staggered him, and referee Vince Delgado stopped the demolition at 2:54.

"He was an idol in Mexico and it was hard for me to hit him hard," said Zaragoza, who posted his 15th KO. "He only hurt me once, in the eighth round with a left hook to my kidney. He's not the fighter he used to be, but he took some big punches and never went down. I probably could have been more aggressive, but I respected Zarate and his punching power too much to take any chances. Zarate isn't as strong as he used to be, but he can still hit."
(2-29-88)



By J.R. Jowett

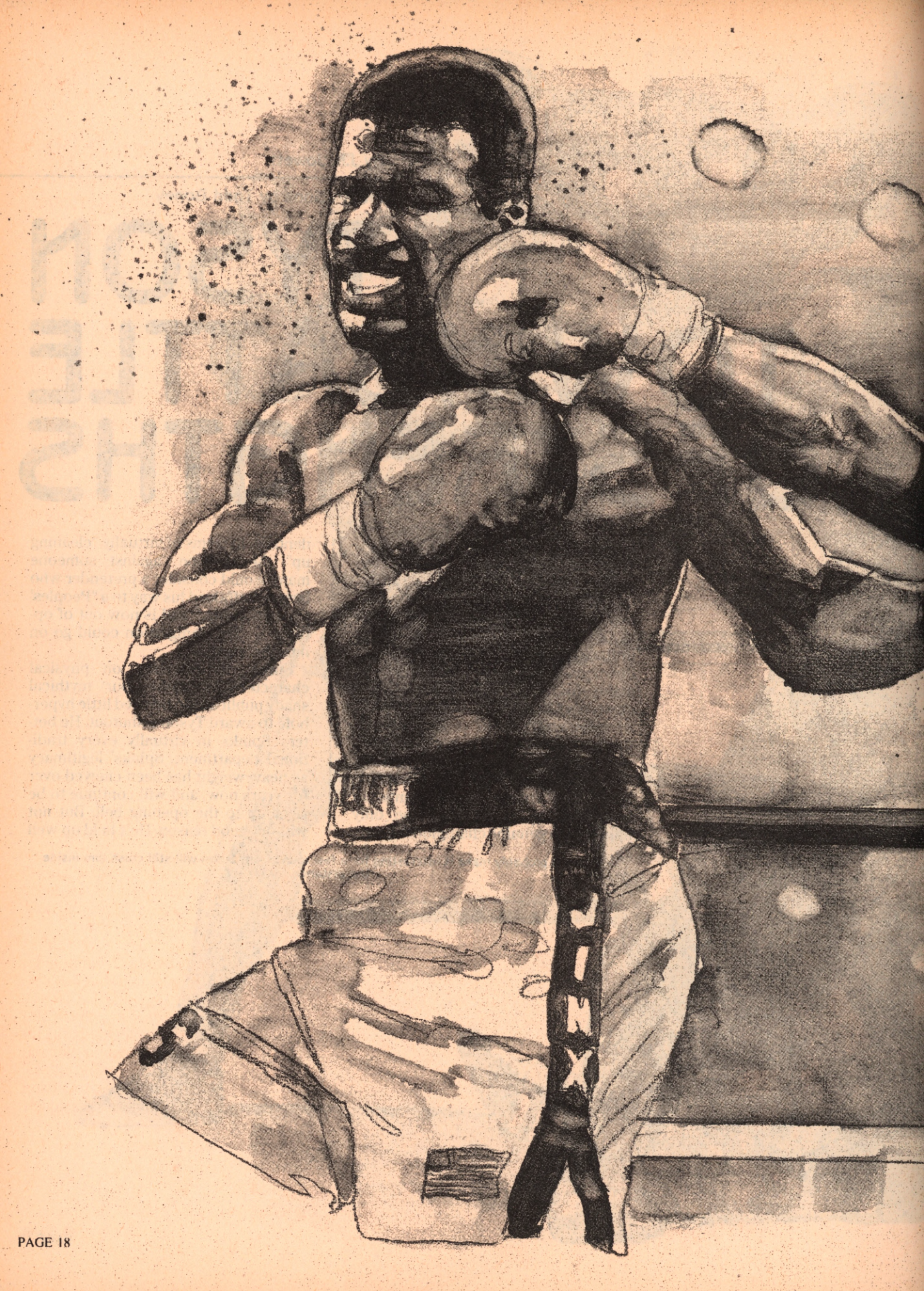
Illustrations by Todd Doney

TYSON TO WIN BATTLE OF STRENGTHS

IF A RIVAL PROMOTER WANTED TO snipe at the Mike Tyson-Michael Spinks match, it would be a lark. Not that such a thing would actually happen, but an unscrupulous PR agent would have little difficulty weaving an unflattering fabric: A Mack truck on a down grade, fitted with a howitzer ... make that two ... ruthlessly chasing down a victim who lurches away like a frightened "Gumbie" ... An awesome heavyweight, forged in a reformatory and polished Spartan bivouac, bulldozing an awkward light heavy who resorted to a Yuppie calorie-counter to bulk him up ... Possibly the only fighter with genuine championship credentials, in terms of virtually "cleaning up" the division, against someone many would consider a pretender who largely buffaloed his way to a "Peoples' Championship," and is now out of options ... The denigration could go on into the night.

Surely, if evaluated on physical characteristics alone, our mythical shady publicist would need little hyperbole to award Tyson a shutout. He betters Spinks in virtually every traditional department. Spinks' legitimacy as heavyweight has been chewed over for years now, and will continue to be right up to the opening bell. But not without good reason. He's held up well

Spinks will probably make it interesting for a few rounds, but Tyson will still crush him inside the distance.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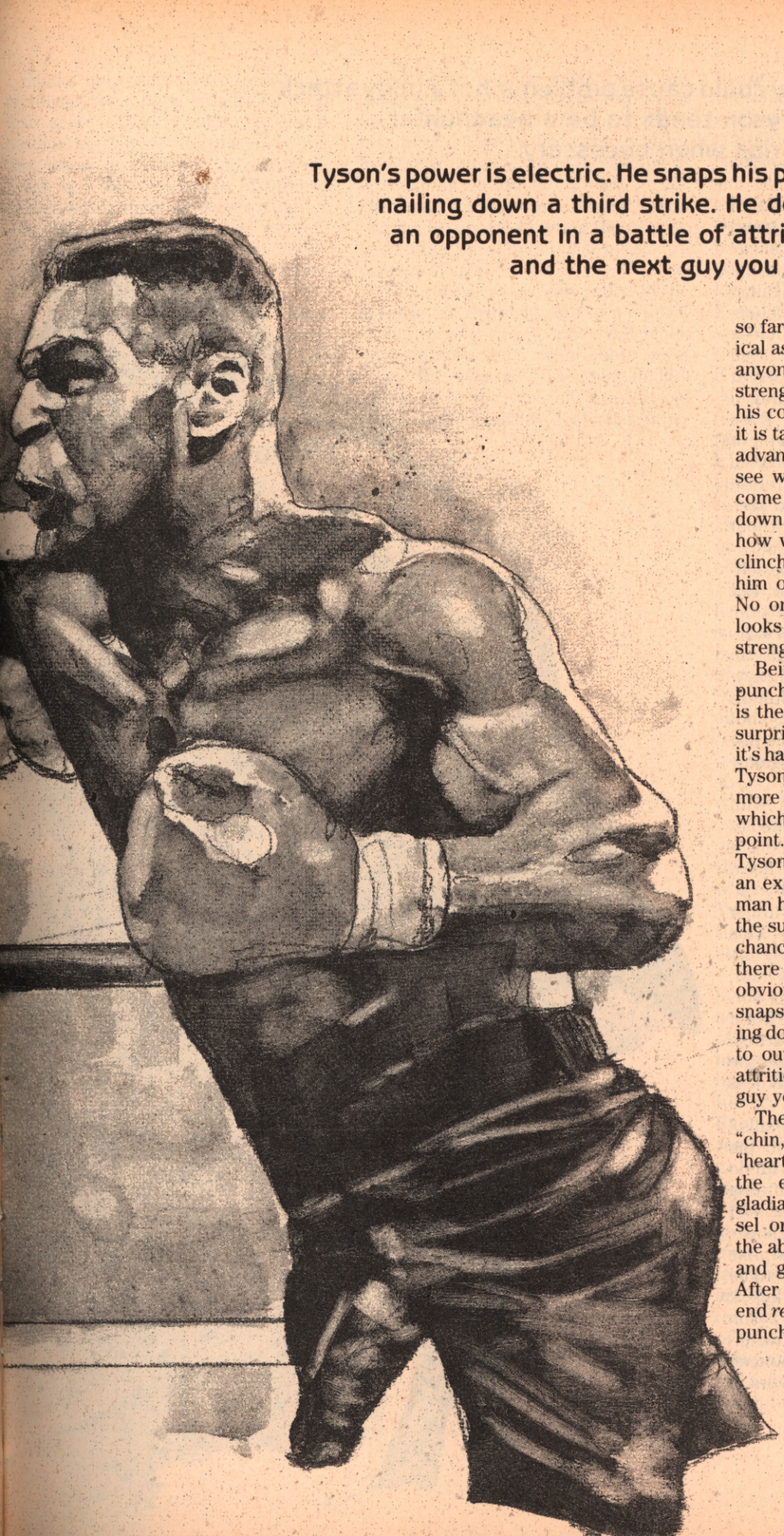


Tyson's power is electric. He snaps his punches like a fireballer nailing down a third strike. He doesn't need to outlast an opponent in a battle of attrition. One wrong move and the next guy you see is Larry Merchant.

so far, but not against anyone as physical as Tyson. In fact, there may not be anyone as physical as Tyson. His strength seems prodigious, and with his compact frame almost as broad as it is tall, he knows how to use it to full advantage. It should be interesting to see what happens the first time they come together after the opening staredown. Spinks' survival may depend on how well he can contain Tyson in the clinches. But that only figures to get him on the "endangered species" list. No one this side of Andre The Giant looks the equal of Tyson in raw strength.

Being brutish doesn't make a puncher, of course, but here too, Tyson is the obvious choice. Spinks showed surprising power against Cooney, but it's hard to imagine anyone dismantling Tyson. "Getting to" the Catskill tiger is more likely to demand trial by fire, which brings us back to the previous point. Spinks seems hardly a match for Tyson "in the trenches." Still, Spinks is an excellent finisher once he's got his man hurt, so his challenge doesn't lack the suspense of the age-old "puncher's chance." For Tyson's part, of course, there can only be a statement of the obvious. His power is electric. He snaps his punches like a fireballer nailing down a third strike. He doesn't need to outlast an opponent in a battle of attrition. One wrong move and the next guy you see is Larry Merchant.

The opposite number to "punch" is "chin," and its romantic leading lady, "heart." Here, Spinks might at least be the equal of "Iron Mike." Neither gladiator has displayed any glass, tinsel or barnyard traits. Speculations on the ability to "take a punch" are legion, and generally end up in blind alleys. After all, only the guy on the receiving end *really* knows how hard a particular punch is.

Spinks' unpredictability could cause problems, but a body attack can even that score. Tyson tends to be a headhunter, but doesn't spare the ribs when necessary.

Tyson's detractors, at a loss to find chinks in his armor, have questioned his ability to take a punch. But "Quick" Tillis, who usually manages to find one dangerous round, couldn't against Tyson. Pinklon Thomas, no slouch, executed well, but never came close to hurting Tyson. Tony Tucker lifted Tyson off his feet with an uppercut only to become mightily discouraged when Tyson landed upright. Even "Bonecrusher" Smith managed a bit of "too little, too late." As Tyson has often asserted, "I refuse to get hurt. I refuse to get knocked down. I refuse to lose. I refuse to leave the ring alive without that belt." And you can believe him!

Spinks, by contrast, tends to be self-effacing and even admits to fear! But courage isn't the lack of fear, it's the power to overcome it. Spinks has exhibited the ability to turn this into an asset, but he wasn't being hit by heavyweights most of the time. Holmes rocked Spinks with a few rights, but was unable to distinguish genuine distress from Michael's normal ungainly stagger.

Cooney was hurting Spinks with hooks to the ribs, but never seemed to notice. Having been mismanaged out of the ring and onto the dance floor, "Gentleman Gerry" was better conditioned to pick up on a come-hither glance than a groan or grimace. This won't happen with Tyson! Like any big-city dweller, you don't unbar the door. "Crusher," "Blood," and the gang survived because they quit fighting. But if that were a serious factor, this article would be about Leroy Boone. Show the former Bed-Sty delinquent a weakness and the fight is all but over.

Lastly, in the area of "boxing skills," Spinks actually appears to have the edge. But going against Tyson with no more than an "edge" is like outfitting the Titanic with life boats: it just isn't enough. Spinks has the better defense, but though it may come as a surprise to many, this fight doesn't figure to be decided on defense. Spinks' herkyjerk footwork serves him well, but Tyson is effective in pursuit. Like Joe Frazier, he doesn't lumber after an opponent, but can place his steps just so to eradicate the distance.

Spinks' unpredictability could cause problems, but a body attack can even that score. Tyson tends to be a headhunter, but he doesn't spare the ribs when necessary. For his part, Tyson is a living example of offense being the best defense. Never a fighter who "takes two to land one," he gets hit infrequently. Opponents have difficulty loading their guns when rockets are bursting around their heads!

Much has been made of the zany Spinks' penchant for punching from odd angles. But Tyson won't be on unfamiliar ground there, either. Take a look at the shot that nearly beheaded Larry Holmes.

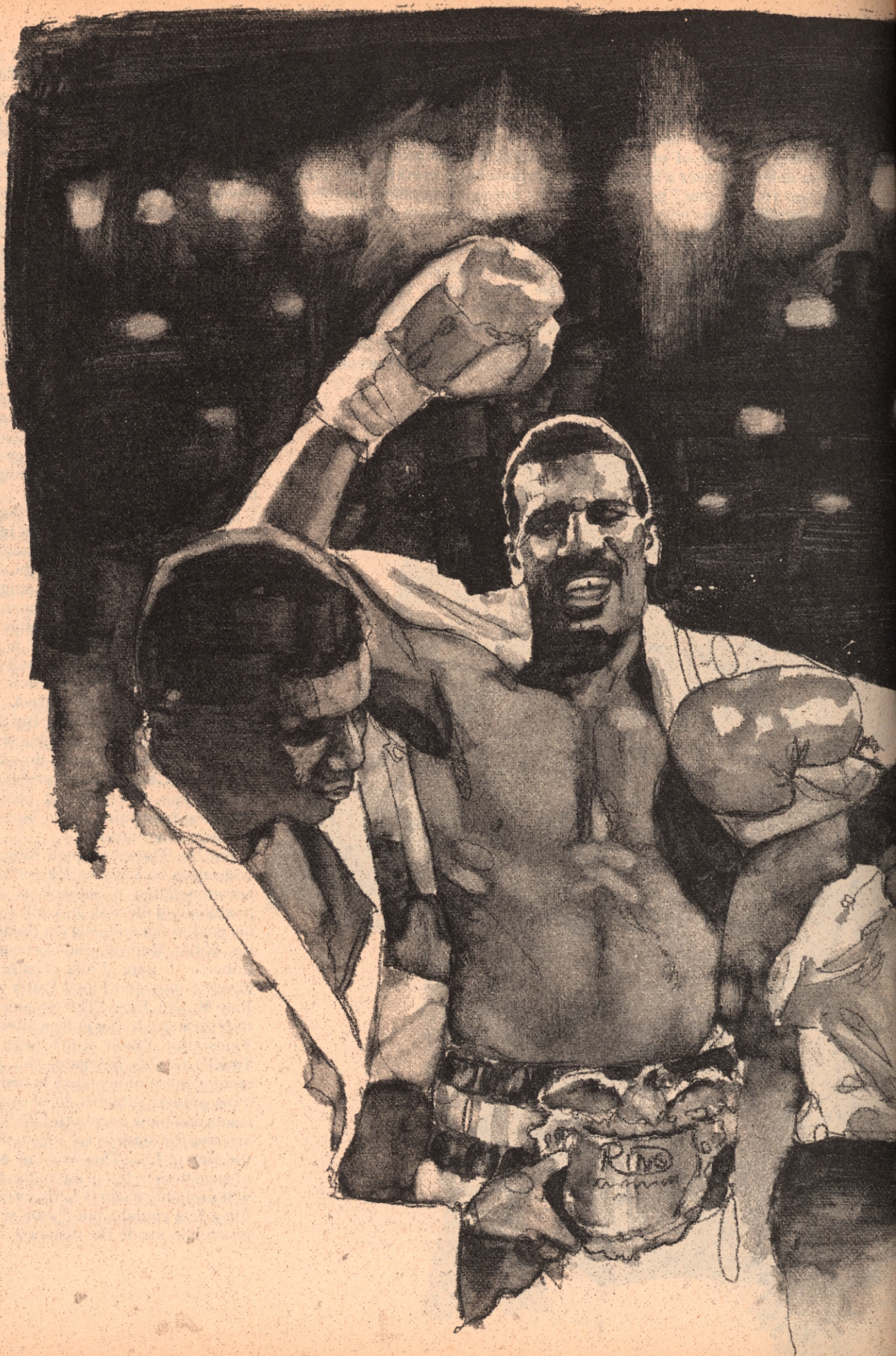
Both have notable hand speed, but position should also play an important part here. Spinks has the unenviable task of catching Tyson at the moment he enters range, then either falling in or escaping without being made to pay. He can do it, but it won't be easy. Tyson has the luxury of dictating the offense and enjoys the element of surprise. Advantage, Tyson.

Now, horse races can probably be sized up accordingly, and to a considerable extent, lesser fights. But when dealing with guys who could swat down the average NFL lineman like killing flies, the physical overkill becomes unmanageable. However, other factors emerge and "the book" takes the window exit. A classic match defies analysis by measurable factors.

Both Mike and Michael have charisma, and its active expression inside the ropes: character. Their showdown could be considered "The Demon Versus The Madman," in the best sense of the terms. Though his quirky charm has caught the public's fancy, Tyson, in the words of Stephen King, "ain't no nice guy." He aptly described his manhunt approach as "intense tunnel vision." But what happens if there's no one at the end of the tunnel? Not in terms of anything so recognizable as physical movement, but rather of mental presence. Tyson is frightening not so much in making an opponent fight his fight as in the ability to impose his *will*. The psychological element in boxing is often over-rated, but can't be ignored. It may be Spinks' best (perhaps only) chance.

Spinks is a "nice guy." The fact that he managed to escape Pruitt-Igoe in such a frame of mind is a contradiction in itself, one which points up the unpredictability that makes the enigmatic Spinks seem a kind of "madman." For all his experience, Tyson's attack still retains the raw element of a street tough. The one thing which will take a street tough out of his stride is a guy who's "crazy." On the street, being "scared" only invites attack. But Spinks doesn't "run scared," he "fights scared." Having a foe who doesn't do what he wills could be a bigger problem for Tyson than any physical challenge. Handling frustration could be his last obstacle to greatness.

But the Three-Crowned King has a dedication to success. He could have accommodated a setback at a few points along the way and still reached his goal in the end. Marvin Hagler had his Willie Monroe, Ray Leonard his Roberto Duran, Emile Griffith his Randy Sandy and Floyd Patterson his Joey Maxim. Even "The Greatest" had to be grateful to the judges after Doug Jones. But Tyson won't hear of it! Thanks to Cus D'Amato, he's got as great a sense of his place in history as most modern athletes do of their contracts and bank accounts. Life imitates art, and the stage is set for no one but the Man of Iron. This won't be a battle of weaknesses, but of strengths. Spinks will probably make it fairly interesting for a few rounds, but Tyson will still crush him inside the distance. □



By Joseph D'O'Brian

Illustrations by Todd Doney

CLOSE, BUT IT'S SPINKS AT THE WIRE

I DOUBT THAT I'LL HAVE A BET ON THIS one. I never bet unless I'm sure the odds are better than they should be. I bet the farm on Michael Spinks in his first bout with Larry Holmes because I knew Spinks would win the way I knew the sun would come up the next morning.

I'm not as certain about Spinks against Mike Tyson. I *think* Michael Spinks will win. He should win. But I'm not positive.

I can, however, talk about why he should win, and how he might do it. Then, if it doesn't turn out that way (and I daresay it won't) you can all have a lot of fun talking about how much smarter you are than I, and why *The Ring* bothers to print my opinions anyway. (I come cheap, that's why.)

Spinks should win, first of all, because he's smart. People call him awkward in the ring, but I believe that's a misnomer. He simply changes his approach frequently, and sometimes in the middle of a round, and the fact that he'll throw several different styles at his opponent sometimes makes him look awkward. The fact is that Spinks is a brilliant tactician, possibly the best in boxing today. He can read a situation much quicker than most fighters, and he almost always reacts correctly. And if he happens to misjudge a situation, he isn't afraid to retreat until he's ready to sort it out again.

Tyson appears to be fairly intelligent, but he isn't a great thinker in the ring the way Spinks is. Partly it's because he doesn't need to be; his strength is usually all he needs. And partly it's because he's still very young; he just hasn't been around enough yet, hasn't seen enough different situations.

Spinks should win, too, because he's cooler-headed than Tyson. I've seen Tyson get frustrated and lose his concentration against men he couldn't knock out, such as James Tillis, Mitch Green and Bonecrusher Smith. And Tillis nearly outpointed him; Smith rocked him pretty good in the closing seconds of their fight and God knows what would have happened if it'd been a 15-round bout. Now, if a slow slugger like Smith can make Tyson blow his cool, imagine what a fellow with Spinks' waggish sensibilities and quick reflexes will be able to do.

Spinks, on the other hand, doesn't seem to get frustrated easily. In any case, it won't matter if he does get frustrated or not, since if he loses, it'll be because he was knocked out by a hel-

lacious punch. Tyson sure ain't gonna outbox him.

Spinks should win because he'll be scared. Not so scared that he can't fight, but scared. He looked pretty damn terrified when he went in there against Holmes, and my suspicion was that this fear inspired him to fight his ass off. It'll be the same thing against Tyson, I suspect, only more so, because this time he'll know that a single punch could send his head into the upper deck. If you're scared of something like that happening, you'll either dog it — and Spinks ain't no dog — or you'll fight like a demon.

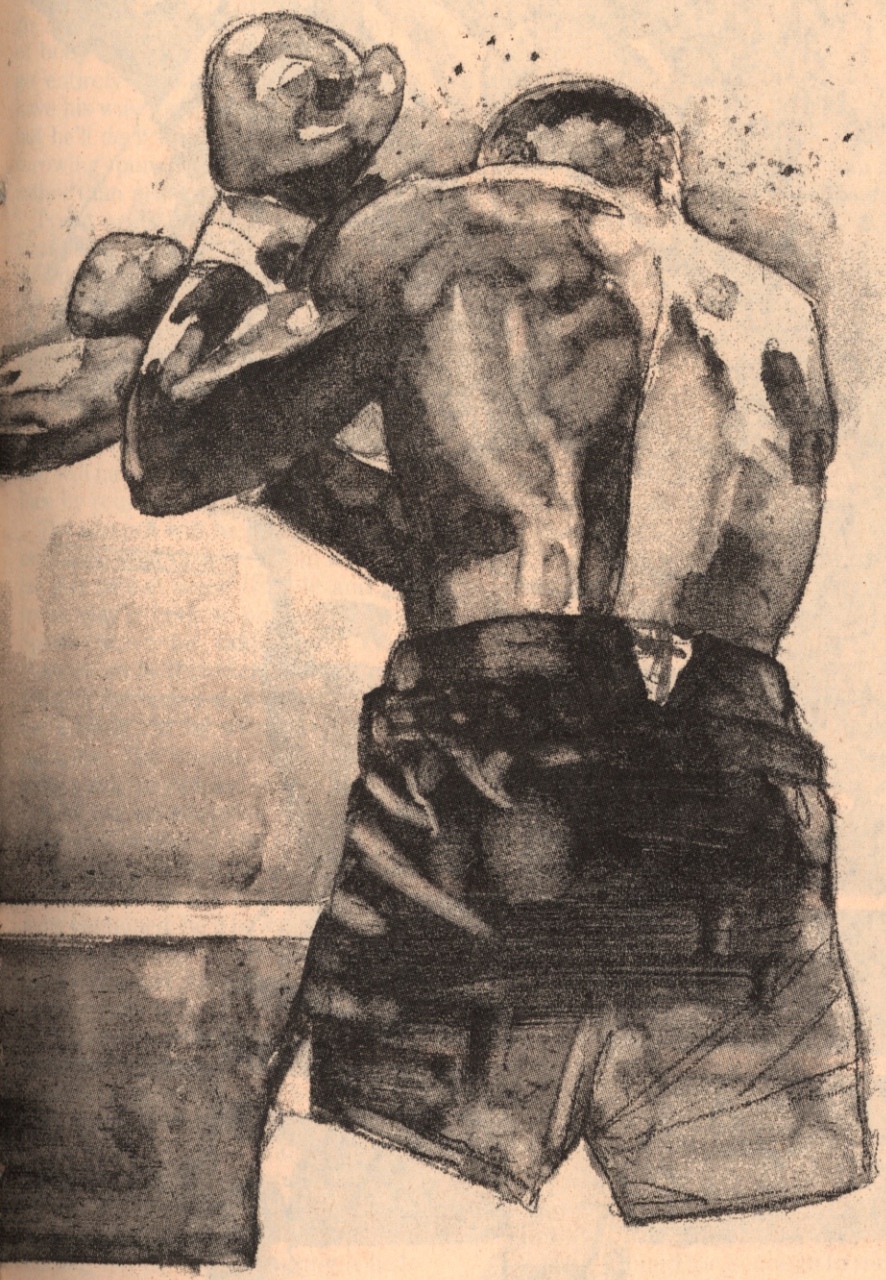
Tyson will be overconfident. How's this old, skinny dude gonna hurt me? he'll be asking himself. Well, he'll find out the hard way.

Finally, Spinks should win because he used to be a light heavyweight. As an amateur, he was a middleweight. This means that he's been exposed to an awful lot of different kinds of fighters. He's fought pure boxers, boxer-punchers, sluggers, fast guys, slow guys, tall guys, short guys, fat guys and skinny guys. There aren't many styles or physical specimens he hasn't seen.

Tyson has always been a heavyweight and has always fought heavyweights. And while there are certain differences between heavyweights, you don't see nearly the diversity in this division that you see in the lighter classes. Heavyweights as a rule are slower, bulkier, more offense-minded, more likely to try to take you out with one punch, or at any rate to win the fight by clobbering you instead of by finessing you. Spinks has seen guys like Tyson: He has a frame of reference; he knows more or less what to expect. For Tyson, it'll be, at least in part, a virgin experience. He may have an idea of how to cope with a fighter like Spinks, and he will certainly have confidence in his strength, but he won't have the necessary confidence in his education or his theoretical knowledge. Spinks has always been forced to be a hands-on student of tactics; it hasn't been necessary, up to now, for Tyson. Spinks will take him to school.

Now, as I said at the top of this article, I don't know what's going to happen. Either man could win in any round, and either of them could win on points. But if I were to operate on the if-someone-held-a-gun-to-my-head premise, here's what I might say will happen:

Spinks will keep the jab in Tyson's face, to some effect: After all, a nose is a nose is a nose.



Tyson will win the first round, but only because Spinks will let him. Spinks will be on the defensive throughout this round, contenting himself with quick but not terribly devastating counterpunches. Tyson will come tearing into him, and will bully him around the ring, but won't land too many solid shots. Almost all of his punches will be glancing blows, or will get picked off, or will miss completely. But he will work hard. It'll be a very inconclusive round.

The second will be a slower round. Tyson will still be working hard, but now Spinks will be tying him up occasionally, leaning on Tyson's neck and pitty-patting him, getting Tyson a little mad. Tyson will be trying to go to the body, but Spinks will pull himself away from these shots. Tyson's swings will look impressive, and will probably win him the round, but Spinks will come out of it undamaged. Tyson will crack Spinks one after the bell.

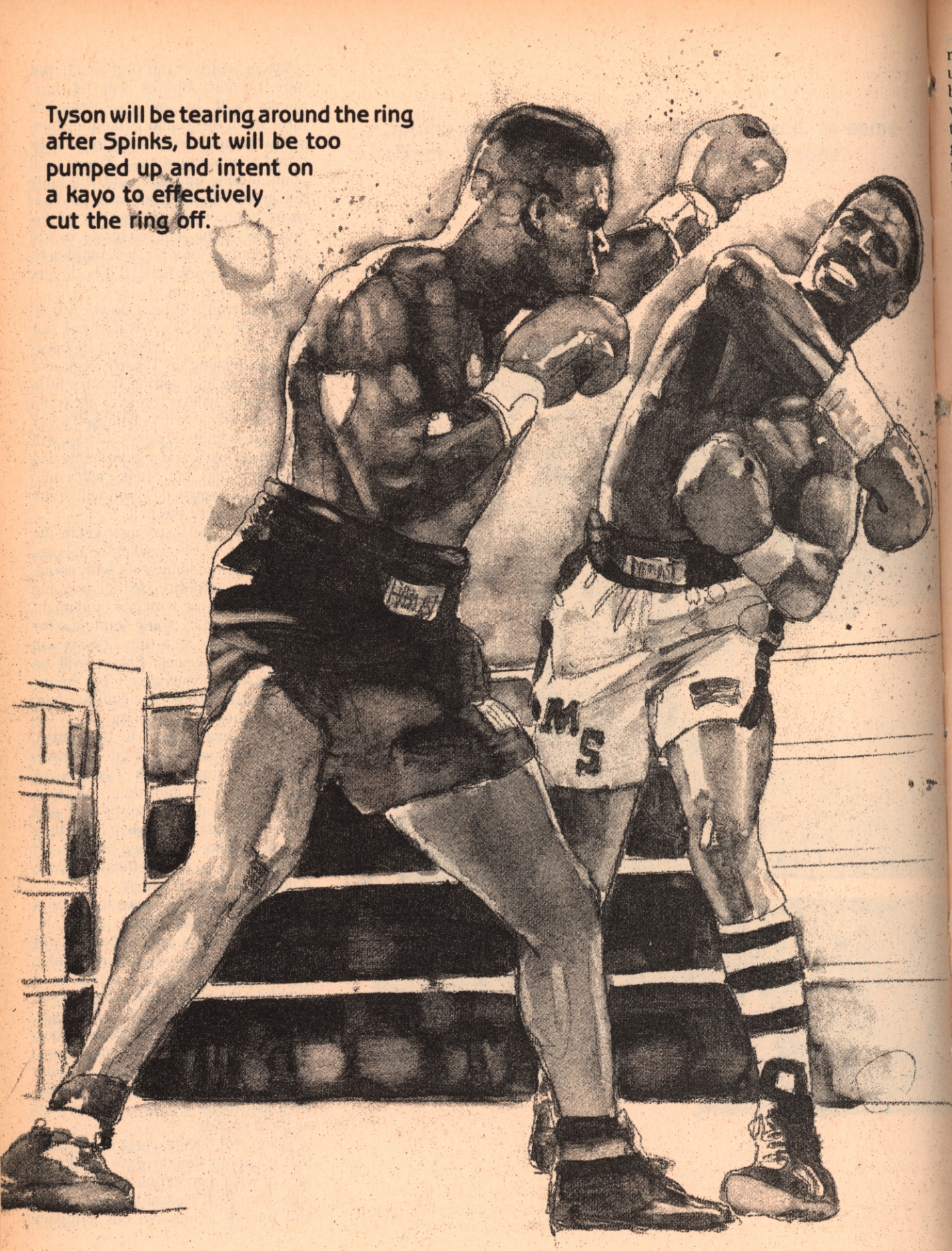
Tyson will still be trying to get inside in the third, but now when he misses, Spinks will be countering with somewhat more authority. He'll be popping Tyson in the nose with jabs, and might confuse Tyson by going southpaw for a few seconds at a time. Tyson will land a few, because Spinks will be fighting less conservatively, but Spinks will clearly outbox him. Still no damage to either man, however.

Spinks might dance in the fourth. He'll use a good deal of lateral movement, and might push Tyson away from him now and then, Ali-style. Tyson will land a few to the ribs, and these will make impressive crunching noises. Spinks will keep the jab in Tyson's face, to some effect: After all, a nose is a nose is a nose.

Now, the fight will have taken on a definite character. Tyson might be slightly ahead on points, but he will not have come close to hurting Spinks. He won't have landed a single good punch to the chin, and the body shots will not have taken any toll as yet. Spinks will not have hurt Tyson either, at least not physically. Not much mentally, either. Tyson might be a tad frustrated, but nothing he can't handle. He'll just figure it'll take another two or three rounds.

Tyson will decide, early in the fifth, that it's about time he gave Spinks an idea of what a good punch in the head feels like. He'll weasel his way inside and uncork a massive but compact

Tyson will be tearing around the ring after Spinks, but will be too pumped up and intent on a kayo to effectively cut the ring off.



right hand, which Spinks will duck under. Spinks will uncoil his entire body into a countering left hook which will catch Tyson coming in, right on the button. Tyson will take a couple of goofy jig-steps backwards, and a quick right-left from Spinks will put him on the seat of his trunks. He'll be badly hurt, but will hop up at once. The crowd will be screeching, but Spinks won't go all-out on the attack. He'll bang Tyson hard a couple of times, but when he sees that Tyson isn't ready to go, he'll back off, having tried a couple of body shots before letting the idea go entirely. Spinks will pretty much have his way for the rest of the round, but he'll do it on the outside, jabbing, throwing punches that are stinging rather than powerful.

Tyson won't be quite himself in the sixth, and Spinks will take the offensive throughout, but he won't do it in the spectacular fashion the crowd demands. He'll jab and counter, jab and counter, and while they'll be hard punches, they won't come close to putting Tyson down. Tyson will be obliged to retreat once or twice, will miss a lot, and will have an unmistakably swollen face by round's end.

The seventh will be much the same, only somewhat slower. Tyson will realize that he's in some trouble and will try to play it cool so he can regroup. Spinks won't be taking any crazy chances, so he'll content himself with winning the round and possibly opening a small cut or so above Tyson's right eye. The crowd, having moved temporarily to Spinks' corner as a result of the knockdown, will now be somewhat confused and restless.

The eighth will look a little better for Tyson. His attack will be somewhat more contained; he'll be systematically working his way inside and banging away with short punches, mainly to the body. Spinks will be making him pay with countering blows, but it will be plain that Tyson is still the stronger man. Both men will still be in fairly good shape, stamina-wise.

The ninth will look much like the eighth for the first minute or so. But Spinks will have taken quite a lot of body punishment by now. He won't be hurting, but he will be getting a little worried about it. He'll be overprotecting the body, and late in the ninth Tyson will finally land that one big punch. It'll hurt. Spinks will immediately hang and grab and try to spin away, but Tyson will be a regular buzzsaw, smashing in there with body shots and trying to bring his attack upstairs once again. Spinks will finally make good his escape and will run out the clock by getting on his (now somewhat rusty) bicycle. Tyson will have a lot of his confidence back at the bell, but will still be wondering how to chop his man down for good.

With three rounds to go now, Tyson appears to have regained an edge on points, or at any rate is not much worse than even. He's coming on, and it may be that Spinks is fading. If Spinks is to win now, he may have to really put on the ol' thinking cap.

Spinks, calling on his reserve fuel tanks, will be up and dancing in the 10th. Tyson will be tearing around the ring after him, but will be too pumped up and intent on a kayo to effectively cut the ring off. Spinks will make him miss and will counter with jabs, tentatively at first, then with more authority as the round wears on. Late in the round, Spinks will throw a few precise rights; they won't hurt much, but they'll make Tyson furious. He'll take another swing at Spinks when the bell sounds.

Kevin Rooney will give Tyson a talking-to before the 11th, and Tyson will, per instructions, try to cut off the ring. But now Spinks will be trying a new tactic: He'll retreat, then suddenly plant his feet and bang with a quick right as Tyson comes in. Still not a hell of a lot on those punches, but none of them will miss, and even a light punch will jog you a little if you're moving straight into it. Tyson will have lost his composure entirely by the last minute of the round; he'll be swinging his punches all the way from Philadelphia, and the worst any of them will do is give Spinks a wind burn.

One round to go now. Tyson isn't exhausted: He can go and go, forever if he has to. But he's mad. Oh, Lord, is he mad, and he can't get it together to calm down and take care of business. Spinks is mighty tired, but he feels good, confident; his adrenaline is going nicely; he certainly looks like he can handle another round.

When the bell rings, Tyson sucks up every ounce of destruction he's got and comes at Spinks like a torpedo. Spinks stands his ground long enough to rattle Tyson's teeth with a left uppercut, then moves off. Tyson comes after him. Spinks knows better than to let him get close; he stays on the retreat.

Now Tyson has to think. Does he have to stop Spinks to win? Or will it be enough to win this round convincingly? Who can tell? Spinks has to think too. Does he need this round? How much risk should he take? The first 30 seconds are a false alarm. They stop, circle each other for a few seconds, then get to work in earnest.

Tyson forces himself to calm down and moves forward a little more slowly, more deliberately. Spinks slows down, too, still thinking. Then he stands his ground and lets Tyson move in on him.

Tyson's strong, but he's still not as calm as he'd like to be. He lands a couple of body shots, then switches up to the head, but now Spinks moves forward; the missile-like left hook goes around his neck. Spinks pushes Tyson back; Tyson storms in again and misses with a right. Spinks ducks this one, spins out, and lands a quick combination to the face. No harm, but it got in there. Tyson comes in to the body again, and Spinks is forced to tie him up. But when the referee breaks them, Spinks elects to stand and slug with Tyson. Not for long, but for long enough to convince Tyson that he can hit, and to convince himself that Tyson's tired enough to be unable to hurt him — if he stays careful.

The rest of the round is as close as can be. Tyson keeps trying to get in; Spinks alternates between moving away and jabbing and staying put and countering. At the bell, both men act like they think they've won, but Tyson looks like he knows better in his heart.

He's right. One judge will have a draw, 114-114, but the other two will have it for Spinks, 114-113 and 115-112. There'll be a few who don't like the decision, but the majority of the fans will think the right guy won, whether they like it or not.

The big question on everyone's mind will be, what would have happened if this had been a 15-rounder? Would Spinks have been able to defend and counterattack for another three rounds without collapsing? Would Tyson have finally got so careless that Spinks could take him out with a couple of very precise blows? Would Tyson have got his act together and managed to outpoint Spinks by muscling him? If Spinks could maintain his strength, could he also maintain his composure?

I strongly suspect that this will be a hell of an interesting fight, but oh, you sleazy, sleazy creeps who forced it to be scheduled for 12! A fungus should grow out of your ears and form sideburns. □

Exclusive Interview With Donald Trump

"THE ART OF THE DEAL" COMES TO BOXING

How Atlantic City stole Spinks-Tyson from Las Vegas

by Nigel Collins

AS I TOOK A CAB FROM *THE RING'S* editorial offices to Trump Tower, it struck me how this was the first time I'd ever interviewed a guy in a building he'd named after himself. Unless you want to count Joe Frazier at his gym, that is. But high-rent Manhattan doesn't breed the same kind of fighter as low-income North Philly. And although Trump will never be heavyweight champion of the world, in the arena he competes in "the art of the deal" carries far more weight than any left hook "Smokin' Joe" ever delivered.

The Ring doesn't usually carry too much copy on real estate tycoons, but since Trump assumed the responsibility for operating Atlantic City's Trump Plaza Hotel/Casino in May of 1986, he has become perhaps the most powerful "player" in the boxing industry. A relative neophyte in the pugilistic jungle of fractured noses and broken promises, Trump has outmaneuvered veteran fight brokers to bring the Mike Tyson-Michael Spinks blockbuster to his playpen by the sea. It was a coup which not only delivered boxing's most sought after match to the east coast, it was the final blow in the most recent punchout between Vegas and A.C. for the right to be known as the boxing capital of the world. The winner and new champion — Atlantic City.

As I rode the elevator to Trump's penthouse office suite, I couldn't help but wonder what kind of guy he was. I hadn't read his book, but the tabloid gossip columns made Trump seem like the biggest egocentric to hit boxing since Don King. I half expected to bump into Robin Leach coming out of the men's room. The once over-over I got from the receptionist as I stood before her in my $60 sports coat wasn't exactly reassuring. But once it was confirmed that I was legit, Trump's personal secretary pleasantly ushered me into his spacious office.

Trump sat behind his desk with a small smile on his face which seemed to say, "Well, here I am." It was similar to what I imagine meeting the President of the United States would be like; once he is before you in the flesh, you quickly realize that, despite his enormous wealth and power, he's just a man like you who puts his pants on one leg at a time.

Trump may be a barracuda in the business world, but he likes boxing and that makes him a fine fellow as far as I'm concerned. We were on common ground and despite a few interrupting phone calls the "fight talk" flowed easily.

"I'm a sports fan in general, but I've always loved the fights," said Trump, fiddling with a felt-tip pen as he spoke, a magnificent view of the Manhattan skyline providing a backdrop for our chat. "Other sports are exciting to me also, but I think boxing always has an edge. I've always loved the basic concept of a fight. You're in the ring by yourself. It's one-on-one, no excuses.

"The first fight I saw live was the (first) Muhammad Ali-Joe Frazier fight at Madison Square Garden. It was just fabulous, and if you're going to break into watching fights, that was a great one to start with. There was tremendous electricity in the air like I've never experienced since."

Trump seemed as pumped up about the impending clash between Spinks and Tyson as any fight buff you might run into at your local taproom. He might take a helicopter to the fight and sit with Kirk Douglas, but he's not just

Don King (with the hair), Mike Tyson's manager Bill Cayton (center) and Donald Trump are all smiles as they sign contracts to bring the Spinks/Tyson showdown to Atlantic City. No wonder. The fight is expected to be boxing's all-time box office smash.

there to be seen and take a bow. Trump is obviously a fan.

"I think this fight will be awesome. I think it will be the biggest fight since Ali-Frazier," he gushed. "I think it's going to be a very competitive fight. Michael Spinks is a great fighter and Mike Tyson is a great fighter. You put two great fighters in the ring (together) and you'll get a great fight."

Asked who he thought would win, Trump gave an understandably diplomatic, but educated reply.

"I can't make a prediction, but I do believe it's going to be a tremendous test for Mike Tyson. You could have lost a lot of money betting against Michael Spinks over the years. The beauty of Spinks is that he always seems to go in as the underdog, but he always finds a way to win."

Spinks and Tyson won't be the only ones taking a big risk June 27th. Trump coughed up a record $11 million site fee to obtain the fight; a figure some experts consider exorbitant.

"It's a high price," agreed Trump. "I could lose some money. I could make some money. I'm not going to get rich with this fight, but I think it was important to get it. I think that it's the biggest fight in many years and I like to be associated with winning causes."

The tale of how Trump wrangled the mega-match away from Vegas is one worthy of the pen of Niccolo Machiavelli. Most observers figure it all started when Trump Plaza played host to Spinks-Cooney, a match few others wanted. However, this assumption is wrong. The groundwork was laid long before Spinks knocked "Gentleman Gerry" back into retirement during last summer's "War At The Shore." It goes all the way back to the first fight the Trump organization purchased when it opened shop along the boardwalk.

"The truth of the matter, and I want to be very careful here not to make us sound any smarter than we really are, is that when we bought Mike Tyson against Jose Ribalta, we were already looking at the possibility of Tyson-Spinks," revealed Mark Grossinger Etess, executive vice president of Trump Plaza. "The fact that we ended up in the advantageous negotiating position we were in was anything but coincidence. The art of the deal, as Donald has been known to say, started with Tyson-Ribalta."

The early favorite to garner Tyson-Spinks was the Las Vegas Hilton, host casino for the HBO heavyweight world series, the tournament which ultimately resulted in Tyson winning the unified Alphabet title. However, Trump craftily undermined Hilton by securing ironclad agreements from both the Spinks and Tyson camps, guaranteeing Trump would control any site rights competition with other hotel/casinos. Trump had obtained what is known as "rights of first negotiation/last refusal." In laymen's terms, it meant no other property could even negotiate for the match without first submitting a written proposal to Trump.

"Once Trump got the right of first refusal, Caesars and the Hilton didn't have a chance," said veteran Vegas observer and oddsmaker Herbie "Hoops" Lambeck during an interview with *The Ring's* Jack Welsh. "It wasn't a bidding situation. The hotels here should have never let him get first refusal. Of course, Trump is a one-man operation who does what he wants. Caesars and the Hilton have to call corporate board meetings before they act."

Just why, you might wonder, do casinos wage such bitter warfare over these over-priced prize fights?

"We've done, to date, three big fights," said Etess. "In chronological order: Spinks-Cooney, June 15, 1987. The night of that fight, during the two gaming shifts which make up the gaming day, we did $7.2 million in pit drop, which was $6 million more than we figure we normally would have done on that day. If you look at the impact of the fight spread over the two days before and the day after the fight, there is an additional $10 million casino drop. And that does not take into consideration additional rooms and food and beverage sales. It also doesn't take into consideration any additional slot handle.

"When we did Tyson-Biggs on the 16th of October, we did just short of $7 million the night of the fight, which was about $5 million more than we would have done without the fight. Tyson-Holmes, January 22, 1988, we did over $8.5 million that night."

So which came first in this chicken/egg situation? Trump's love of boxing or his love of money?

"I think it's a combination of the two," said Etess. "Donald and I have spent a ton of time talking about boxing. Clearly, because Donald and I are both boxing fans I think we are more attuned and pay more attention to boxing. But we recognized from the very beginning the business opportunity that could ensue for Trump Plaza by utilizing boxing, especially big boxing, as one of the weapons in our marketing arsenal."

"It (boxing) attracts a very competitive guy," confirmed Trump. "And a competitive guy tends to be a gambler and someone who wants to be a high roller, and in many cases is a high roller."

Securing the Spinks-Tyson showdown was not the end of the story. Trump wanted the bout to be held on a Monday, hoping to lure gamblers to a three-day spending spree at the seashore. The problem was that Police Expo '88 had already booked the Atlantic City Convention Center for June 27. The hassle evaporated quickly, however, when Trump whipped out his ever-ready checkbook.

"We're paying over $200,000 to the police chiefs and to the meeting planner for what he expected to make off the deal," said Stephen Hyde, president of Trump Plaza. "Without having to do any work at all, they make money."

Of course, an event of the Tyson-Spinks magnitude has a sizeable economic impact on the entire community, boosting business all along casino row and beyond.

"We are getting commitments for blocks of tickets from most of the other casinos," Etess said. "One of the things Donald knows is that when he takes a risk to bring a big fight to Atlantic City, it helps the entire county and, ultimately, the entire state."

As my allotted time with Trump wound down, I asked if he thought Atlantic City had permanently replaced Las Vegas as the site for boxing's biggest fights. His answer was predictable, but stated with the offhand confidence of a man who is used to getting what he wants.

"I expect it to be ongoing. I expect Atlantic City and Trump Plaza in particular, because of its location and because of the fact I have the greatest arena for boxing in the world, to dominate boxing for years to come."

And the next spectacular?

"I think (a match involving Evander) Holyfield is the next monster," Trump ventured enthusiastically.

Would it be at Trump Plaza?

"Any fight I've wanted to get, I've been able to get." □

PUNCH COUNTER PUNCH

Who do you think will win the Mike Tyson-Michael Spinks bout?

Alexis Arguello wasn't too impressed with Spinks' kayo over Gerry Cooney and touts Tyson to win the battle of Michaels.

Carmen Basilio *(Former world welter and middleweight champion):*
Tyson will destroy Spinks . . . He looks better all the time. He's exceptionally fast and drives those big guys nuts because they can't handle his quickness.

Alexis Arguello *(Former world featherweight and lightweight champion):*
I compare him [Tyson] to Rocky Marciano, but with more speed. Tyson applies too much pressure on his man and the only type of fighter who could beat him is one like a young Muhammad Ali. Spinks, to me, is still a light heavyweight. Yes, he knocked out Gerry Cooney, but who the hell is Cooney?

Warner Wolf *(TV sports broadcaster):*
Spinks is the best fighter that Tyson has been up against, and if Bonecrusher Smith and Tony Tucker can go all the way, well, think about it. I was tremendously impressed with the way Spinks knocked out Cooney. And make no mistake, he's a real heavyweight. I see Spinks winning a split 12-round decision with no knockdowns in the fight.

Howard Cosell *(Former boxing broadcaster):*
As skillful as Michael Spinks is, with his great foot movement, he will not be able to avoid the strength of Tyson through an entire bout. And although Michael Spinks has explosive punching power with either hand, Tyson has the strength to withstand the assault. Michael Spinks deserves to be taken seriously. But even so, he cannot, in all seriousness, defeat Mike Tyson. Mike Tyson is the strongest man in boxing today. And it is this strength that will enable him to prevail in their bout in June.

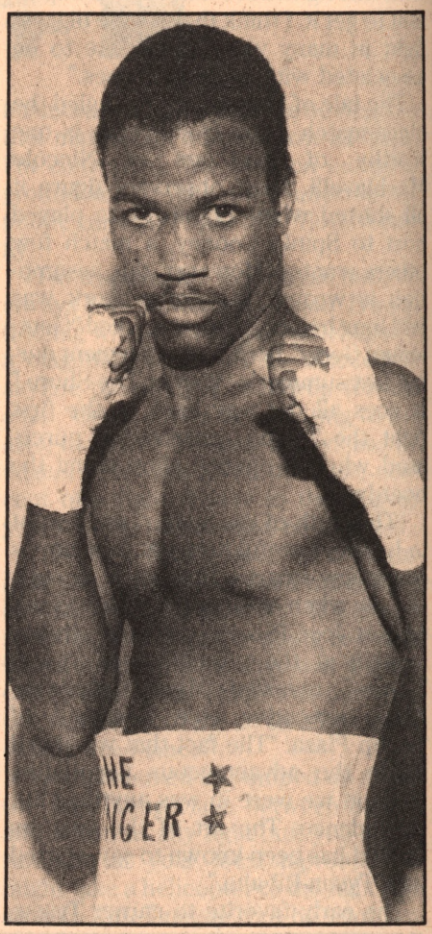
Michael Katz *(New York **Daily News** sports columnist):*
Michael Spinks is one heck of a fighter, but you can't tell me he can beat Tyson. I still remember Spinks being shaken in his last light heavyweight fight by "Diamond" Jim MacDonald. I still see him staggered by Old Man Holmes in the 14th round of their rematch. He won't be able to take Tyson's stuff for long — probably not for more than a handful of rounds.

Jersey Joe Walcott *(Former heavyweight champion of the world):*
I think Michael Spinks will win, perhaps even stop Tyson. Spinks has the heart, ability and determination to do the job. He's the better all-around fighter.

Emile Griffith *(Former world welter and middleweight champion):*
I like Spinks, but Tyson will wear him down. Tyson is a powerful young man who can really punch.

Phill Marder *(Managing editor of **The Ring**):*
As much as I admire Michael Spinks' fighting ability, I have to pick Mike Tyson to win this fight by knockout.

IBF bantamweight boss Kelvin Seabrooks thinks Spinks' best bet is to try and box Tyson, but figures Tyson will eventually force Spinks into a brawl.



Spinks has never lost a fight and cannot be discounted, but it seems Tyson is just too powerful for any heavyweight around today. But no matter who wins, it'll be great just to have a truly undisputed heavyweight champion again.

Floyd Patterson *(Former heavyweight champion of the world):*
Tyson ... he's the better fighter. Not

Former heavyweight champ Jersey Joe Walcott, who pulled off a few upsets in his time, is one of the few experts picking Spinks to beat Tyson.

to take anything away from Spinks; he's a helluva fighter. But he's not a bona fide heavyweight. He's carrying too much weight. When did you ever see him drop his hands and walk around as a light heavy? His only chance is to move ... I mean *really* move. But a moving fighter burns up a lot of energy, and Spinks can't keep that up as a heavyweight.

Bernard Fernandez *(Covers the boxing beat for the **Philadelphia Daily News**):*
Basically, I think the hype will exceed the fight. As much as I respect Michael Spinks, I think it will be a typical Tyson fight. I see him out-gunning Spinks for a kayo within six rounds.

Al Bernstein *(ESPN boxing analyst):*
I like Tyson by a knockout. I love Spinks and hate to pick against a guy who has never lost, but I remember Larry Holmes wobbling Spinks. I just think Tyson has too much power.

Carmen Graziano *(Trainer):*
I like Tyson, but I think it will go awhile. Spinks is unorthodox and his awkward mobility will make him hard to find. But in the end, Tyson will get him.

Ron Katz *(Matchmaker):*
I like Tyson ... big!

Sandy Saddler *(Former world featherweight champion):*
I like Tyson to stop Spinks because he's the better puncher of the two. It'll probably go eight or nine rounds.

Smiley Hayward *(Trainer of "Prince" Charles Williams):*
It'll be a better fight than a lot of people think. Tyson might win, but Spinks' experience will make the fight close. He can use his jab and movement to make a good fight, but he can't do it for 12 rounds. Tyson is too strong.

Bob Foster *(Former light heavyweight champion of the world):*
I don't think Spinks has any chance at all. In fact, I don't think Spinks really beat Holmes. Holmes beat himself with his mouth, saying those things about Rocky Marciano. Tyson is just too strong. The type of guy who can beat Tyson is a guy who feints a lot. You've got to fool him. And I don't see anybody like that around today. Although I took a crack at Ali and Frazier, if I was still fighting, I wouldn't want to fight Tyson. He's an animal in the ring.

Eddie Futch *(Michael Spinks' trainer):*
Spinks will win. Tyson has never faced a fighter like Michael Spinks, who is smart, who has never lost a professional fight, who can punch with either hand and who has a very unorthodox style ... and is still young enough. Tyson is going to see more angles from Spinks than he ever knew existed in boxing. Michael Spinks can also hurt anybody he hits good.

Kelvin Seabrooks *(IBF bantamweight champion):*
If Spinks can box Tyson he might be able to win, but I think the pressure Tyson puts on will eventually force Spinks into a brawl. I don't think it will go more than six rounds. When they go power-for-power, Tyson will win by a knockout.

Nigel Collins *(Editor-in-Chief of **The Ring**):*
It has been said that no fighter is unbeatable, but at this stage of his career, Mike Tyson probably is. However, those who think "Iron Mike" will dispatch Spinks as easily as he did Biggs, Holmes and Tubbs could be in for a surprise. I think Spinks is good enough to play Billy Conn to Tyson's Joe Louis. But like Louis, Tyson is a fighter of destiny and will eventually come up with the punch he needs to beat Spinks. But don't be too shocked if before the axe falls, Spinks, like Conn, gives a good enough account of himself to set up a rematch.

Former light heavyweight king Bob Foster, who was stopped by both Joe Frazier and Muhammad Ali in unsuccessful attempts to step up to the heavyweight division, doesn't even give Spinks a slim chance.

THE PROFESSIONAL RING RECORD OF MIKE TYSON

Catskill, N.Y. heavyweight
Born: June 30, 1966
Manager: Bill Cayton
Trainer: Kevin Rooney

DATE	OPPONENT	SITE	RESULT
	1985		
Mar. 6	Hector Mercedes	Albany	KO1
Apr. 10	Trent Singleton	Albany	KO1
May 23	Donald Halpin	Albany	KO4
June 20	Rick Spain	Atlantic City	KO1
July 11	John Alderson	Atlantic City	KO3
July 19	Larry Sims	Poughkeepsie	KO1
Aug. 15	Lorenzo Canaday	Atlantic City	KO1
Sept. 5	Michael Johnson	Atlantic City	KO1
Oct. 9	Donnie Long	Atlantic City	KO1
Oct. 25	Robert Colay	Atlantic City	KO1
Nov. 1	Sterling Benjamin	Latham	KO1
Nov. 13	Eddie Richardson	Houston	KO1
Nov. 22	Conroy Nelson	Albany	KO2
Dec. 6	Sam Scaff	New York	KO1
Dec. 27	Mark Young	Colonie	KO1
	1986		
Jan. 11	David Jaco	Albany	KO1
Jan. 24	Mike Jameson	Atlantic City	KO5
Feb. 16	Jesse Ferguson	Troy	KO6
Mar. 10	Steve Zouski	Uniondale	KO3
May 3	James Tillis	New York	W10
May 20	Mitch Green	New York	W10
June 13	Reggie Gross	New York	KO1
June 28	William Hosea	Troy	KO1
July 11	Lorenzo Boyd	Stevensville	KO2
July 26	Marvis Frazier	Atlantic City	KO1
Aug. 17	Jose Ribalta	Atlantic City	KO10
Sept. 6	Alfonso Ratliff	Las Vegas	KO2
Nov. 22	Trevor Berbick (Won WBC Heavyweight Title)	Las Vegas	KO2
	1987		
Mar. 7	James Smith (Won WBA Heavyweight Title)	Las Vegas	W12
May 30	Pinklon Thomas (Retained WBA/WBC Heavyweight Titles)	Las Vegas	KO6
Aug. 1	Tony Tucker (Won IBF Heavyweight Title)	Las Vegas	W12
Oct. 16	Tyrell Biggs (Retained WBA/WBC/IBF Heavyweight Titles)	Atlantic City	KO7
	1988		
Jan. 22	Larry Holmes (Retained WBA/WBC Heavyweight Titles)	Atlantic City	KO4
Mar. 21	Tony Tubbs (Retained WBA/WBC Heavyweight Titles)	Tokyo	KO2

SUMMARY

BOUTS	WINS	LOSSES	DRAWS	KOs
34	34	0	0	30

THE PROFESSIONAL RING RECORD OF MICHAEL SPINKS

Wilmington, Delaware heavyweight
Born: July 22, 1956
Manager: Butch Lewis
Trainer: Eddie Futch

DATE	OPPONENT	SITE	RESULT
	1977		
Apr. 17	Eddie Benson	Las Vegas	KO1
May 7	Luis Rodriguez	St. Louis	W6
June 1	Joe Boron	Montreal	KO2
Aug. 23	Jasper Brisbane	Philadelphia	KO2
Sep. 13	Ray Elson	Los Angeles	KO1
Oct. 22	Gary Summerhays	Las Vegas	W8
	1978		
Feb. 15	Tom Bethea	Las Vegas	W8
Dec. 15	Eddie Phillips	White Plains	KO4
	1979		
Nov. 24	Marc Hans	Bloomington	KO1
	1980		
Feb. 1	Johnny Wilburn	Louisville	W8
Feb. 24	Ramon Ronquillo	Atlantic City	KO6
May 4	Murray Sutherland	Kiamesha Lake	W10
Aug. 2	Dave Conteh	Baton Rouge	KO9
Oct. 18	Yaqui Lopez	Atlantic City	KO7
	1981		
Jan. 24	Willie Taylor	Philadelphia	KO6
Mar. 28	Marvin Johnson	Atlantic City	KO4
July 18	Mustafa Muhammad (Won WBA Light Heavyweight Title)	Las Vegas	W15
Nov. 7	Vonzell Johnson (Retained WBA Light Heavyweight Title)	Atlantic City	KO7
	1982		
Feb.13	Mustapha Wasajja (Retained WBA Light Heavyweight Title)	Atlantic City	KO6
Apr.11	Murray Sutherland (Retained WBA Light Heavyweight Title)	Atlantic City	KO8
June12	Jerry Celestine (Retained WBA Light Heavyweight Title)	Atlantic City	KO8
Sep.18	Johnny Davis (Retained WBA Light Heavyweight Title)	Atlantic City	KO9
	1983		
Mar. 18	Dwight Braxton (Won World Light Heavyweight Championship)	Atlantic City	W15
Nov. 25	Oscar Rivadeneyera (Retained World Light Heavyweight Championship)	Vancouver	KO10
	1984		
Feb. 25	Eddie Davis (Retained World Light Heavyweight Championship)	Atlantic City	W12
	1985		
Feb. 23	David Sears (Retained World Light Heavyweight Championship)	Atlantic City	KO3
June 6	Jim MacDonald (Retained World Light Heavyweight Championship)	Las Vegas	KO8
Sep. 22	Larry Holmes (Won World Heavyweight Championship)	Las Vegas	W15
	1986		
Apr. 19	Larry Holmes (Retained World Heavyweight Championship)	Las Vegas	W15
Sep. 6	Steffan Tangstad (Retained World Heavyweight Championship)	Las Vegas	KO4
	1987		
June 15	Gerry Cooney (Retained World Heavyweight Championship)	Atlantic City	KO5

SUMMARY

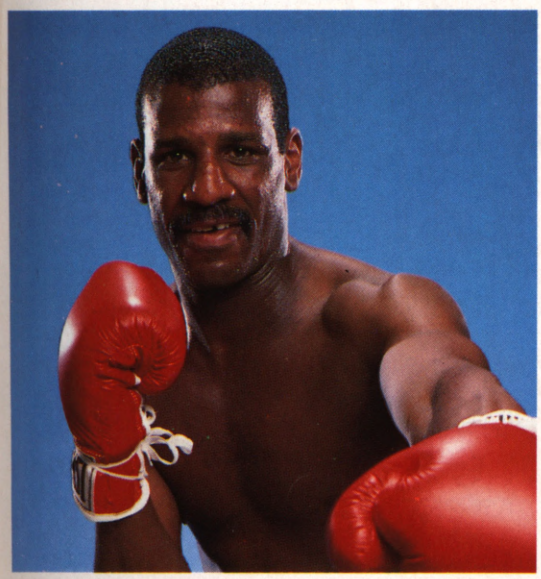
BOUTS	WINS	LOSSES	DRAWS	KOs
31	31	0	0	21

The RING SCORECARD

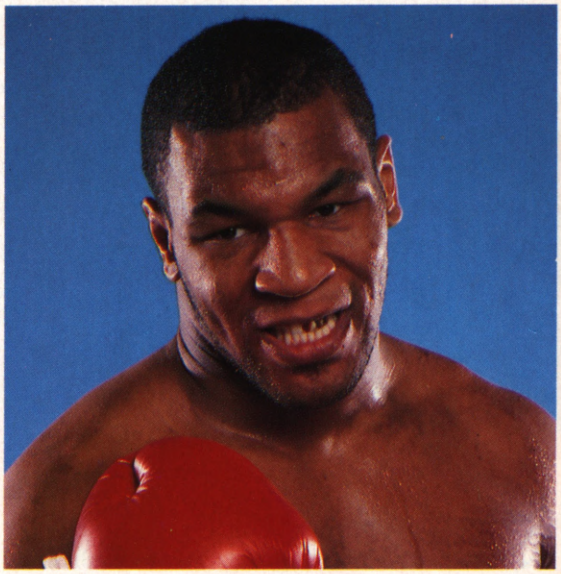
MICHAEL SPINKS VS. MIKE TYSON

12 ROUNDS FOR THE UNDISPUTED HEAVYWEIGHT CHAMPIONSHIP OF THE WORLD

TRUMP PLAZA, ATLANTIC CITY, NEW JERSEY



Michael Spinks
31-0 (21 KOs)



Mike Tyson
34-0 (30 KOs)

ROUND	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	TOTAL
MICHAEL SPINKS													
MIKE TYSON													

The RING RATINGS AS OF APRIL 4, 1988

HEAVYWEIGHTS (No Weight Limit) WORLD CHAMPION

MICHAEL SPINKS	Missouri
1. Mike Tyson	New York
2. Evander Holyfield	Georgia
3. Tim Witherspoon	Pennsylvania
4. Tony Tucker	Michigan
5. Carl Williams	New York
6. Pinklon Thomas	Michigan
7. Trevor Berbick	Florida
8. Adilson Rodrigues	Brazil
9. Tyrell Biggs	Pennsylvania
10. Mike Weaver	California

LIGHT HEAVYWEIGHTS (Not Over 175 Pounds) WORLD CHAMPION

TITLE VACANT

1. Charles Williams	Ohio
2. Virgil Hill	North Dakota
3. Bobby Czyz	New Jersey
4. Leslie Stewart	Trinidad
5. Dennis Andries	England
6. Tony Willis	Illinois
7. Don Lalonde	Canada
8. Chong-Pal Park	Korea
9. Lindell Holmes	Michigan
10. Ramzi Hassan	California

MIDDLEWEIGHTS (Not Over 160 Pounds) WORLD CHAMPION

TITLE VACANT

1. Thomas Hearns	Michigan
2. Sumbu Kalambay	Italy
3. Frank Tate	Texas
4. Marvin Hagler	Massachusetts
5. Michael Nunn	California
6. Iran Barkley	New York
7. Mike McCallum	Jamaica
8. Matthew Hilton	Canada
9. Herol Graham	England
10. Gianfranco Rosi	Italy

WELTERWEIGHTS (Not Over 147 Pounds) WORLD CHAMPION

Lloyd Honeyghan	England
1. Marlon Starling	Connecticut
2. Mark Breland	New York
3. Maurice Blocker	Washington, D.C.
4. Jorge Vaca	Mexico
5. Simon Brown	Washington, D.C.
6. Rollin Williams	Arizona
7. Juan Martin Coggi	Argentina
8. Tyrone Trice	Michigan
9. Roger Mayweather	Nevada
10. James McGirt	New York

LIGHTWEIGHTS (Not Over 135 Pounds) WORLD CHAMPION

TITLE VACANT

1. Julio Cesar Chavez	Mexico
2. Greg Haugen	Washington
3. Pernell Whitaker	Virginia
4. Jose Luis Ramirez	Mexico
5. Edwin Rosario	Puerto Rico
6. Meldrick Taylor	Pennsylvania
7. Vinny Pazienza	Rhode Island
8. Rocky Lockridge	New Jersey
9. Amancio Castro	Colombia
10. Primo Ramos	Mexico

FEATHERWEIGHTS (Not Over 126 Pounds) WORLD CHAMPION

ANTONIO ESPARRAGOZA	Venezuela
1. Jeff Fenech	Australia
2. Calvin Grove	Pennsylvania
3. Bernardo Pinango	Venezuela
4. Jeff Franklin	Nevada
5. Hector Lopez	Mexico
6. Marcos Villasana	Mexico
7. Victor Callejas	Puerto Rico
8. Steve Cruz	Texas
9. Julio Gervacio	Dominican Republic
10. Louie Espinoza	Arizona

BANTAMWEIGHTS (Not Over 118 Pounds) WORLD CHAMPION

TITLE VACANT

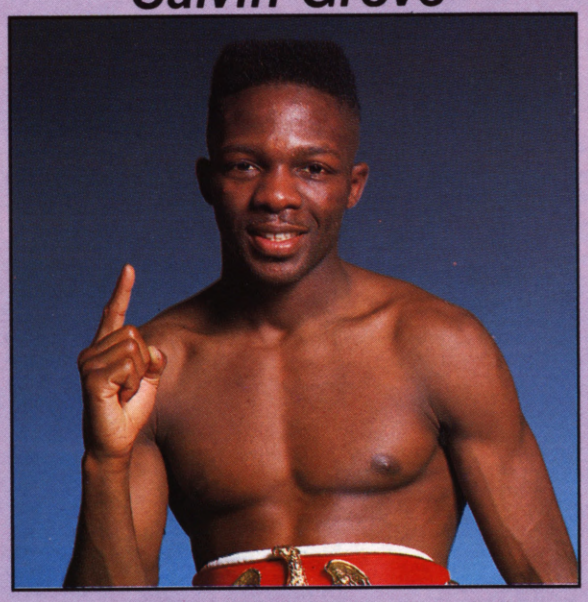
1. Miguel Lora	Colombia
2. Kaosai Galaxy	Thailand
3. Kelvin Seabrooks	South Carolina
4. Sugar Baby Rojas	Colombia
5. Raul Perez	Mexico
6. Wilfredo Vasquez	Puerto Rico
7. Santos Laciar	Argentina
8. Gilberto Roman	Mexico
9. Takuya Muguruma	Japan
10. Gaby Canizales	Texas

FLYWEIGHTS (Not Over 112 Pounds) WORLD CHAMPION

SOT CHITALADA	Thailand
1. Jung-Koo Chang	Korea
2. Fidel Bassa	Colombia
3. Myung-Woo Yuh	Korea
4. Hilario Zapata	Panama
5. Chang-Ho Choi	Korea
6. Gabriel Bernal	Mexico
7. Dodie Penalosa	Philippines
8. Paul Gonzales	California
9. Benedicto Murillo	Panama
10. Duke McKenzie	England

The RING CALENDAR JULY 1988

Calvin Grove



1 FRIDAY
1956—Mike Rossman born, Turnersville, New Jersey.

2 SATURDAY
1921—First radio blow-by-blow broadcast of a fight, Packey O'Gatty vs. Frankie Burns, Jersey City.

3 SUNDAY
1940—Willie Pep pro debut, W4 James McGovern, Hartford, Connecticut.

4 MONDAY
1907—Tommy Burns KO1 Bill Squires, retains world heavyweight championship in 2:09.

5 TUESDAY
1764—Daniel Mendoza, first Jewish world champion, born in London.

6 WEDNESDAY
1952—Danny "Little Red" Lopez born, Fort Duchesne, Utah.

7 THURSDAY
1985—Julio Cesar Chavez TKO2 Roger Mayweather, retains WBC super featherweight title.

8 FRIDAY
1889—John L. Sullivan TKO75 Jake Kilrain, retains bareknuckle heavyweight championship.

9 SATURDAY
1981—"Caveman" Lee TKO5 John LoCicero, *The Ring's* Round of the Year.

10 SUNDAY
1922—Jake LaMotta born in The Bronx.

11 MONDAY
1953—Leon Spinks born, St. Louis, Missouri.

12 TUESDAY
1962—Julio Cesar Chavez born, Sonora, Mexico.

13 WEDNESDAY
1980—Matthew Saad Muhammad TKO14 Yaqui Lopez, retains world light heavyweight championship in *The Ring's* Fight of the Year.

14 THURSDAY
1925—World flyweight champion Pancho Villa dies of blood poisoning caused by ulcerated tooth.

15 FRIDAY
1975—Saensak Muangsurin TKO8 Perico Fernandez, wins WBC super lightweight title in third pro bout.

16 SATURDAY
1947—Rocky Graziano TKO6 Tony Zale, wins world middleweight championship in *The Ring's* Fight of the Year.

17 SUNDAY
1930—Al Singer KO1 Sammy Mandell, wins world lightweight championship in 1:46.

18 MONDAY
1948—Jim Watt, former WBC lightweight titleholder, born Glasgow, Scotland.

19 TUESDAY
1986—Tim Witherspoon TKO11 Frank Bruno, retains WBA heavyweight title.

20 WEDNESDAY
1953—Rocky Mattioli, former WBC super welterweight titleholder, born in Italy.

21 THURSDAY
1927—Jack Dempsey KO7 Jack Sharkey before 75,000 in Yankee Stadium.

22 FRIDAY
1963—Sonny Liston KO1 Floyd Patterson, retains world heavyweight championship in *The Ring's* Fight of the Year.

23 SATURDAY
1923—Benny Leonard W15 Lew Tendler, retains world lightweight championship.

24 SUNDAY
1986—Tsuyoshi Hamada KO1 Rene Arredondo, wins WBC super lightweight title in 3:09.

25 MONDAY
1948—Claude Noel, former WBA lightweight titleholder, born in Trinidad.

26 TUESDAY
1938—Al Hostak KO1 Freddie Steele, wins NBA middleweight title in 1:43.

27 WEDNESDAY
1965—Former world light heavyweight champion Freddie Mills died of gunshot wounds under mysterious circumstances in London.

28 THURSDAY
1951—First televised fight in Mexico, Julio Jiminez vs. Manny Madrid.

29 FRIDAY
1981—Roger Mayweather's pro debut in Las Vegas, KO1 Andrew Ruiz.

30 SATURDAY
1884—First title bout under Queensberry Rules, Jack Dempsey "The Nonpareil" KO22 George Fulljames, becomes first recognized world middleweight champion.

31 SUNDAY
1984—Vernon "Yogi" Buchanan pro debut, W4 Walter Cowens in Chicago.

"Iron Mike" meets his match in 400-pound Sumo wrestler Sally Konishiki.

TOKYO—IN 1984, THE GERMAN ROCK group Alphaville hit the charts with a minor hit entitled "Big In Japan." The song concluded, "Things are easy when you're big in Japan."

If that's the case, life couldn't be easier for Mike Tyson.

The WBA/WBC/IBF heavyweight titleholder made his first appearance here and took the country by storm. Other heavy hitters from America have had an impact here — George Foreman, Muhammad Ali, even Douglas MacArthur. But it would be hard to recall anyone creating more of a fuss than the 21-year-old Tyson.

MIKE TYSON — BIG IN JAPAN

Tyson the tourist enjoys the sights during his visit to Japan.

by Joe Koizumi

Mike Tyson (left) tears into Tony Tubbs en route to second-round knockout at the new Tokyo Dome.

photos by Kazumichi Hayashi

From the moment he arrived, Tyson was a sensation. He wasn't the talented actor or talker that Muhammad Ali was when he came here to fight Mac Foster 16 years ago, but the Japanese people loved his personality anyway.

The object of his visit was his two-round demolition of Tony Tubbs before an estimated 51,000 at the 65,000-seat Toyko Dome. The "fight" for Tyson's three titles marked the commemoration of the new indoor stadium's celebrated opening, and impresario Akihiko Honda of Teiken Promotions managed to pay Tyson's $5 million purse without Japan's capital city becoming another Shelby, Montana, which was bankrupt by the Jack Dempsey/Tommy Gibbons battle in 1923.

Tyson was looking for a tuneup for his long-awaited showdown with Michael Spinks, recognized by *The Ring* as true heavyweight champion, June 27 in Atlantic City. He didn't get it. If he was looking for a cultural experience along the way, he didn't get much of that, either, though he spent a good deal more time with the Japanese people than he did in the ring with Tubbs.

On the 14-hour trip from New York to Tokyo, Tyson was so excited he seemed like a kid going on a picnic.

He couldn't even catch a nap. He arrived here February 17, 33 days before the fight, and people wondered why he had come so early. Kevin Rooney, Tyson's trainer, explained his early arrival was so that Mike could become acclimated to the climate and surroundings of Japan, but it may have been a mistake as the shy champion became homesick and seemed overwhelmed by the attention.

"I never wanted to be a superstar, I just wanted to be champion of the world," said Tyson.

It was left to Tyson's assistant manager Steve Lott to remind onlookers that, "Though he is a champion of the world, he is still just a 21-year-old kid."

The cultural gap might have made Tyson homesick for a while, but he regained his usual zip and fitness as he got accustomed to the Japanese people and system. He tried as best he could to lead a regular life here, going to bed at eight p.m. and getting up at four a.m. for his morning roadwork.

From the moment he arrived, Tyson was a sensation. He wasn't the talented actor or talker that Muhammad Ali was when he came here to fight Mac Foster 16 years ago, but the Japanese people loved his personality anyway.

Still Tyson's every move was reported big in all the newspapers and magazines. His impact was such that one magazine had him on the cover even though there was nothing inside about him! Television, of course, also zeroed in on "Iron" Mike as he appeared to plug his fight with Tubbs. He came across as a modest and sincere guy. When asked by a television announcer what his message to Japanese youngsters was, Tyson replied, "You have to go to school every day and study hard."

Tyson's public appearances were kept to a minimum, however, as he seemed to prefer the solitude of his hotel room to the throngs he attracted wherever he did appear. As HBO filmed "Mike Tyson in Japan," Tyson was required to do some sightseeing, though, and, on February 21 he came face-to-face with Sumo wrestler Sally Konishiki, who arrived from Hawaii several years ago to become a top contender in the Sumo world.

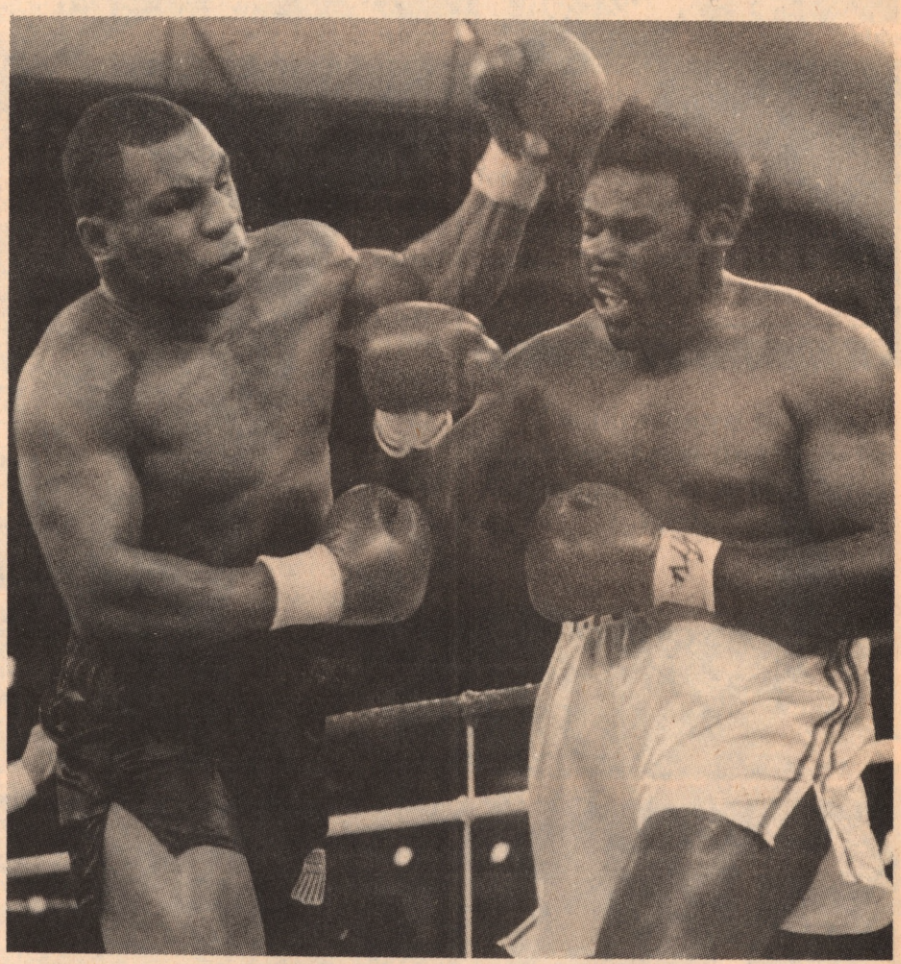
While the Japanese people seemed in awe of Tyson's size and strength, the titleholder and his new bride, Robin Givens, were amazed at the 400-pound Konishiki.

Tyson also went to the Ueno Zoo twice in March and visited Korakuen Hall, the mecca of Japanese boxing, to see the fights. Wherever he went, he was accompanied by lots of people and children who probably viewed him as Superman due to the exaggerations of Japanese journalists. On leaving Korakuen Hall, he was surrounded by fans who wanted to touch him or get an autograph and Honda persuaded him not to go there again as most of the spectators ignored the fights while trying to get a glimpse of "Iron" Mike.

Trying to concentrate on being properly prepared mentally and physically for the Tubbs fight, Tyson was always accompanied by five security guards, all Karate experts, who did their best not to interfere with his routine. Not that Tyson needed protection.

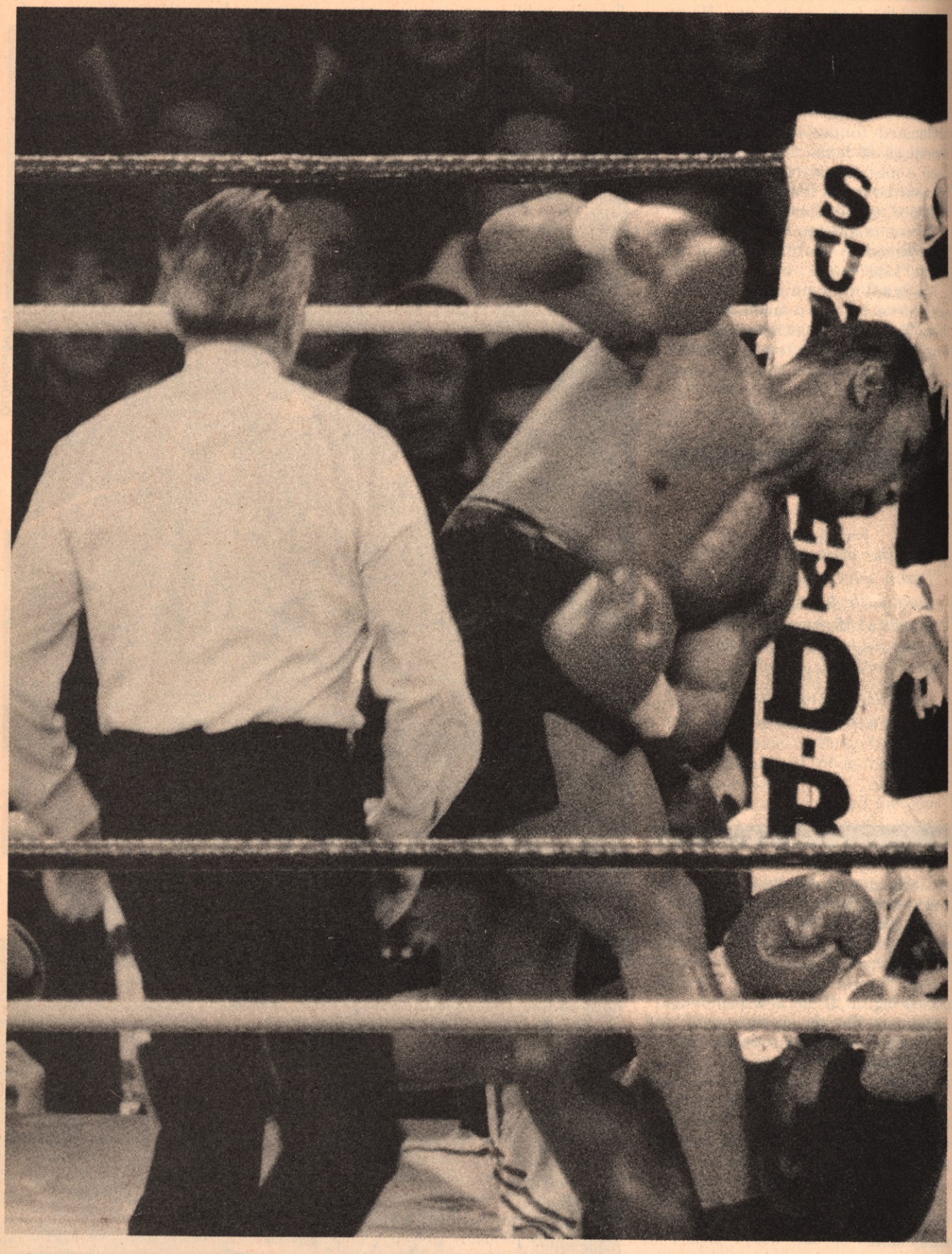
"I thought Japan is a country of Ninja where all people are training Judo, Karate or Aikido on the streets," said Tyson. "But this city Tokyo is just like New York, though this is much cleaner and safer than New York."

Training at the Teiken Gym, one of the oldest clubs in Japan, Tyson arrived



AP LASERPHOTO

Tony Tubbs grimaces as Mike Tyson lands a left to the head in the second round of their scheduled 12-rounder at the Tokyo Dome.



AP LASERPHOTO

Mike Tyson appears to be trying to hammer Tony Tubbs into the canvas after flooring him with a left hook in the second round. Referee Arthur Mercante counted Tubbs out 2:54 into the round.

for workouts at noon and sparred six to 10 rounds with five sparring partners daily. On March 14 he held an open workout that attracted 1,000 spectators.

Bill Cayton, Tyson's co-manager, had arrived the day before, eight days before the fight. Jim Jacobs, ill in the hospital, did not make the trip, the first Tyson fight he failed to attend. Jacobs was missed here and the news of his death saddened the Japanese boxing community.

Tyson did not face Tubbs until the weigh-in. When fight-time finally arrived, Tyson was greeted with a tremendous roar as he appeared in the ring, heavily sweating and without a robe. Though the Japanese people had hoped that Tubbs would be competitive, they were there to see Tyson and his tremendous power.

Another who was quite pleased with Tyson's showing was the new Mrs. Tyson, who seemed to be delighted with the performance of her seemingly invincible husband.

In that they were not disappointed as Tyson demolished Tubbs with a vicious left hook at 2:54 of the second of the scheduled 12-round bout.

Tubbs, of course, was the underdog, but he was expected to last longer than previous Tyson victims due to his reported durability and determination. Ranked No. 2 by the WBA, Tubbs had once captured the vacant WBA throne by decisioning Greg Page over 15 rounds in 1985. His only loss in a 24-1, 15 KOs record was a 15-round decision to Tim Witherspoon when he surrendered his title. He was regarded as a worthy challenger if he could reduce his ballooned body below 240 pounds, which he did, weighing 238¼, 22 pounds heavier than Tyson.

But the prefight ceremony, which featured Andy Williams singing the national anthem of the United States, lasted longer than the fight itself.

As the first round began, Tubbs commenced walking side to side while throwing a good jab. "Iron" Mike appeared cool, but cautious, in the first minute. Though Tyson was four inches shorter than the 6-3 Tubbs and gave away 10 inches in reach, his jab, which he turned loose in the second minute, was sharper and more accurate.

Midway in the session, Tyson caught Tubbs with a vicious overhand right to the temple and the challenger's legs suddenly buckled. Tyson followed with another right, but couldn't find the mark and Tubbs grabbed Tyson's arms and managed to last the round.

Promoter Honda appeared much relieved to hear the bell ending the first round as he had been afraid of seeing a repeat of the quick disaster Foreman's one-round knockout of Joe "King" Roman provided 15 years ago.

The crowd, especially ringsiders who paid $850 a seat, were hoping to be entertained for awhile, too, but Tyson mercilessly swarmed over the bewildered Tubbs in Round Two. Tyson fired a triple jab that had Tubbs retreating to the ropes. Tubbs tried to muffle Tyson in close, but the titleholder never stopped punching, using a right uppercut to the chin followed by a right hook to the belly. "TNT" became groggy and Tyson exploded a strong left hook to the right side of Tubbs' forehead that wobbled Tubbs and put him on the seat of his trunks.

Tyson's attempted followup missed as Tubbs sank, but it wasn't necessary. Tubbs had collapsed with a red ribbon of blood streaming from a cut above the right eyebrow.

Veteran referee Arthur Mercante of New York began his count, but Tubbs' cornerman, Odell Hadley, came to his fighter's rescue.

Rooney was pleased with his fighter's work, saying, "He followed our fight plan perfectly."

Another who was quite pleased with Tyson's showing was the new Mrs. Tyson, who seemed to be delighted with the performance of her seemingly invincible husband.

The 30-year-old Tubbs, apparently dejected at his poor showing, failed to appear at the post-fight press conference, but Ali, who had coached Tubbs and was seated at ringside with Don King, praised Tyson's improvement as the titleholder stretched his record to 34-0 with 30 knockouts.

Tyson and his entourage, which included Lott, Rooney, Cayton, veteran cutman Matt Barnaski and Camile Ewald, who had, along with Cus D'Amato, taken care of Tyson as a youngster, departed for the States the next day.

"I like it short," said Tyson. "Tubbs was fast, but I caught him quick. I like Japan. I'd like to come back here if invited again."

But Tyson, who was fighting abroad for the first time, will likely visit other regions of the globe before returning here. Assuming he is successful against Spinks, Tyson will likely meet Frank Bruno in Great Britain, Francesco Damiani in Italy and Adilson Rodrigues in Brazil.

"I never wanted to be a superstar, I just wanted to be champion of the world," said Tyson.

And even if Tyson did want to come back to Japan, Honda indicated it may not be feasible financially.

"Because this event was a kind of festival for the opening of the Tokyo Dome, we could overcome all economic barriers to make it successful," said Honda. "I wonder if we'll be able to do it again. This might be the first and last enterprise to book King Tyson here."

Certainly, the Japanese people hope Tyson will return. For 35 days, he was the center of the Japanese sports world. To the Japanese people, his personality and performance were both knockouts.

Surely, Mike Tyson proved to be "Big in Japan."

Judges: Larry Rozadilla, Masakazu Uchida & Ken Morita.
TV: Nippon Television (Japan) & HBO (US)
(3-21-88) □

RINGS AROUND THE WORLD

NORTH AMERICA

UNITED STATES

CALIFORNIA

▶**RESEDA**—Improving his record to 16-1 with nine knockouts, NABF heavyweight titleholder **Orlin Norris**, 209, Campo, knocked out Fayetteville, North Carolina's Woody Clark, 203, in the first round.

Norris preparing for a title defense against **Renaldo Snipes,** whistled a right hand to Clark's temple, and Clark wobbled back, falling to both knees. He got up, but fell to his knees again and it was over at 1:04.

Jesus Poll, 125, North Hollywood, won a 10-round decision over Victor Paredes, 126, Los Angeles.

Jerry Rosenburg, 140, Glendale, knocked out Robert Olivera, 140, San Diego, in the first round.

Steve Lewis, 140, North Hollywood, knocked out Bakersfield's Jose Rodriguez, 139, in the second.

Juan Hernandez, 126, Los Angeles, won a four-round decision over Pulga Franco, 123, Los Angeles.

Promoter: Ten Goose Boxing.

(2-23-88)

▶**SANTA CLARA**—Marriott Hotel—Promising lightweight David Gonzales, 135, San Jose, gave a boxing lesson to Felix Gonzalez, 136, San Francisco, before stopping him in the 10th and final round.

Gonzales, who improved his record to 16-1-1 with 12 knockouts, was ahead comfortably on all three scorecards when the bout was stopped with just 1:09 remaining.

Gerardo Martinez, 120, San Jose, knocked out Edel Bernal, 120, Guadalajara, Mexico, in the first round.

Steve Gutierrez, 150, Merced, knocked out Carlton Brooks, 148, Los Angeles, in two.

Luis Prado, 122, San Jose knocked out Daniel Garcia, 121, Los Angeles, in three.

James Dean, 114, Merced, won a four-round decision over Luciano Martinez, 113½, Los Angeles.

Promoter: Star Boxing Promotions.

(2-26-88)

COLORADO

▶**DENVER**—The Scene—John Welters, 156, Thorton, outpunched dogged Charlie Chambers, 152, Denver, over eight, two-minute sessions.

Welters is 15-0 and appears ready for a step up in competition.

Eric Sedillo, 36 years old and inactive since being stopped by James "Quick" Tillis in June 1980, belted out Denver's Danny Ross, 182, at 1:15 of the fourth of a scheduled six. Sedillo, 194, Denver, was quicker and sharper than expected and controlled the action throughout the two-minute rounds.

A local middleweight tiff saw Mark Buckley overtake Curtis Shapley in four twos.

Local lightweight prospect Benji Marquez stayed in tune by fighting a brisk and pleasing exhibition with Denver's Anthony Barela.

Promoter: All-Star Promotions.

Referee: Vern Stevenson.

Attendance: 250 (est.).

(2-20-88)

ED WALSH

CONNECTICUT

▶**TRUMBULL**—Marriott Hotel—Phil Brown, 230, Wallingford, returned to ring warfare after an eight-month layoff to score his 29th victory by outpointing David Jaco, 220, Bradenton, Florida, in a 10-rounder.

The transplanted New Orleans boxer worked out his ring rust over the first few rounds and sailed along to a clear victory, ref Matt Mullaney having Brown winning handily, though one judge gave him just a two-round edge.

Admitting he was off his peak at 230 pounds compared to his customary 215-218, Brown said he is happy with his new handlers, manager Don Bowers and trainer George Cruz, the duo that was in **Marlon Starling's** corner the night he knocked out Mark Breland.

Sean Malone, 139, Wallingford, was peppered with many jabs that closed his right eye, but got rid of his tormentor, Frankie Harris, 139, Norwalk, with a right to the jaw that stopped the latter in three, Harris appearing reluctant to continue.

Junior Edmonds, 178, Trumbull, halted Kevin Denson, 180, Providence, Rhode Island, in the sixth of the semifinal eight.

Junior Rodriguez, 149, Norwalk, stopped Paul Falcone, 155, Springfield, Massachusetts, in four.

Alberto Alicea, 137, Troy, New York, outscored Gerry O'Campo, 135, Holyoke, Massachusetts, in four.

Kevin Pompey, 147, Troy, halted Khalif Shabazz, 145, Hartford, in five.

Officials: Matt Mullaney, Duke Lawson & Bob Muravnick.

Timekeeper: Jack LaSalle.

Physician: Steven M. Stein.

Announcer: Lou Dell.

Matchmaker: Bob Charian.

Promoter: Connecticut Sports Promotions.

Attendance: 750, $20,000 (est.).

(2-20-88)

JOSEPH CASSANO

FLORIDA

▶**HIALEAH**—Milander Auditorium—World-ranked lightweight **Amancio Castro,** 137, Colombia, ran his record to 23-4-1 with a seven-round TKO of Miami's Billy Wooten, 138½.

Wooten held his own for the first three rounds, but "The Hurricane" began connecting with body shots in the fourth and dropped Wooten with a short right in the fifth. Wooten survived, but took a pounding in the sixth and referee Bill O'Connor saved him from further punishment, stopping the bout in the next frame.

Colombia's Nicanor Camacho, 158, returned after a three-year retirement to decision Miami's Ron Beasley, 155, in six rounds.

Another scheduled six ended quickly when Edward Pollard, 136, Barbados, knocked out Phillip Spencer, 135, with a straight left in just over a minute.

Miami's John Burney, 170, also ended his scheduled six in fast fashion, stopping Chester McDonald, 167, Fort Myers, in the first.

Tampa's Jorge "Popeye" Vera, 123, made his pro debut in a sensational fight, winning a unanimous, four-round decision over Timmy Lee, 125, Fort Myers. There was little to choose between the two over the first three rounds, but Vera landed a hook for a knockdown in the fourth and that decided the bout, all three judges calling it 39-38.

Jakie Winters, 174, Ft. Lauderdale, won by first-round disqualification over Holmstead's Herbie Goodman, 174, in a bizarre match. Holmstead body slammed Winters to the canvas shortly after the opening bell and received a warning. He then threw a bear hug on Winters and shoved him through the ropes for another warning. That didn't sink in and when action resumed Goodman threw Winters to the deck again, drawing the DQ.

Frankie Brae, 190, Tampa, stopped Roger Lubin, 186, Miami, in the third of a scheduled four.

Promoter: Tiburon Promotions/Laura Bonanni.

Matchmaker: Julio Martinez.

Referees: Billy Yoham, Juan Arias & Bill Conners.

Physician: Maria Espinosa.

Attendance: 800.

(3-18-88)

▶**MIAMI**—Knight Center—Former WBA light heavyweight titleholder **Leslie Stewart** tuned up for his upcoming WBC title match with Don Lalonde by stopping Dean Moore at 2:48 of the ninth round of a scheduled 10.

Stewart, fighting out of Fort Lauderdale via Port of Spain, Trinidad, improved his record to 26-2, but received more of a battle than expected. Moore, Forest City, North Carolina, who weighed 176 to Stewart's 181, dropped to a reported 17-8.

"I am working toward regaining the title," Stewart told Greg Victor of the *Miami News*. "It is important to me to perform well and resurrect my image in the eyes of the American boxing public."

Before the match, Stewart had told Santos Perez, also of the *Miami News*, "I've learned a lot in the last year. One of the biggest things I learned was not to overlook anyone. That's what happened against (Virgil) Hill. Of all the American boxers from those Olympics, he was one I couldn't remember. I was caught up in the celebration after beating (Marvin) Johnson. The success of that fight made me feel invincible. Back home, people would stop in the streets, ask for my autograph, take pictures with them. I got caught up in that and didn't train properly.

Stewart added, "There were all kinds of stories as to why I lost. Some people said I was on drugs. Others said I had six women with me the night before the fight and that I lost all my energy. But they all agree it wasnt the real Leslie Stewart in the ring that day."

Barranquilla, Colombia's Felipe Orozco, 129, took a unanimous, 10-round decision over Jesse "Bang Bang" Williams, 130½, Orlando, but had to survive a late rush by the loser. Orozco, 23-4, was much taller and boasted a 10-inch reach advantage, but Williams, 11-4, worked inside to take the final three rounds in the crowd-pleaser.

Monagas, Venezuela's Alfredo "Scarface" Rojas, 141, took a split, 10-round decision over Valledupar, Colombia's Eduardo Panteera Valdes, 141½, in a good bout. Rojas, 15-3, kept trying for a KO, while Valdes, 18-12, countered well.

Anthony "Terminator" Logan, 160½, Hollywood, missed notching his eighth consecutive first-round knockout, but still improved to 17-0 with a third-round stoppage of Birmingham, Alabama's Derrick Earving, 161½. The bout was stopped before the bell starting Round Three on the advice of the ringside physician, Earving falling to 16-9.

An eight-rounder also ended early, Caracas, Venezuela's Orlando Orosco, 150½, stopping Holmstead's Dexter Smith, 152, in the fifth when Smith, a last-minute substitute, ran out of gas. Orosco is 15-8-3, Smith, 30-24-4.

Promoter: IV Glove.
Referees: Eddie Eckert & Bernie Soto.
Judges: Rick Beys, Al Wilensky, Ed Levine & Mark Schnecner.
Matchmaker: Wilson Larroseaux.
Attendance: 150 (paid).
(3-18-88)

▶**MIAMI**—Legend Athletic Club—WBC super flyweight champion **Sugar Baby Rojas** of Colombia weighed 122 in boxing a four-round exhibition with Idabeth Rojas, who scaled 127.

An eight-rounder saw Jorge Romero, 129½, stop Freddy Sevilla, 129, in the sixth round.

A scheduled six ended in the first, Alberto Reyes, 129½, stopping Edwin Centano, 135.

Promoter: Carlos Barahona.
Physician: Dr. Ed Cottler.
Referees: Bernie Soto & Armando Garcia.
Timekeeper: Bill Ouimette.
Judges: Rick Beys, Henry Berman & Al Wilensky.
(3-9-88)

▶**HIALEAH**—Mauricio Rodriguez, 145, Miami via Cuba, stopped Fernando Martinez, 147½, Miami via Puerto Rico, at 2:51 of the eighth round of the scheduled 10-round main event.

Ali Sanchez, 159, Miami via Cuba, won a unanimous, six-round decision over Harold Williams, 160, Miami.

Salim Muhammad, 155, Jamaica, also won unanimously over six, beating Marc McClellan, 157, Naples, McClellan being dropped by a left hook in the final session.

Jose Guzman, 128, Miami via Cuba, won a split, four-round decision over Jaime Castellano, 125, Miami, via Puerto Rico, who suffered his sixth straight loss though the decision was booed.

Rolando Sosa, 127, Miami via Cuba, won a unanimous, four-round verdict over Paul Mingo, 129, Florida City. Sosa was returning after two years' inactivity.

Elvis Yero, 149, Miami via Cuba, stopped Johnny Valentine, 151, Miami via Puerto Rico, in the third of a scheduled four, Valentine suffered a broken jaw and could not answer the bell.

Promoter: Arena Promotions.
Physicians: Dennis & Guerra.
Referees: Eddie Eckert, Bill Conners & Billy Yoaham.
Timekeepers: Sam Guralnick & Richard Grover.
Judges: Mark Schechner, Ed Levine, Henry Berman & Irv Abramson.
(3-11-88)

ILLINOIS

▶**CHICAGO HEIGHTS**—Chicago Heights Banquet Hall—Craig Bodzianowski, 205, Tinley Park, Illinois, made his 1988 debut a successful one by dropping Earl Lewis, 202, Youngstown, Ohio, in the first and eighth rounds en route to capturing a unanimous, eight-round decision.

"Gator" utilized a right hand to send Lewis, a 1982 National Golden Gloves champion, to the canvas late in the opening round and scored the second knockdown in the final round with a left hook, overhand right combination.

In between knockdowns Bodzianowski allowed himself to be maneuvered to the ropes a little too much, but Lewis was never able to administer any major hurt. Bodzianowski upped his record to 20-1 and all signs point to a May rematch with the only man ever to defeat him, former WBC cruiserweight titleholder Alfonso Ratliff.

Tim Adams scored 38-33 for the winner, while Mike Glienna and Bill Lerch each saw the bout 38-32.

Following a 2½-year layoff, popular Mike "Choirboy" Landini, 156, Calumet City, returned to action and halted Don Ward, 161, South Bend, Indiana, at 1:20 of the third round. Landini was in good shape, but looked a little rusty (who wouldn't?) and got rocked on a couple of occasions.

"Choirboy's" main weapon has always been his jab, but Landini seemed intent on showing some power and got unnecessarily tagged by the mediocre Ward. Referee Nate Morgan stopped the bout in the third after Ward had been decked by a right hand. Ward appeared to have beaten the count and vociferously protested the stoppage. While I doubt the loser would have rallied, many felt he deserved a chance to do so. Landini is 25-2.

Charles "The Ghetto Bomber" O'Neil, 162, Chicago, won a four-round majority decision over Ron Lewis, 164, Benton Harbor, Michigan. O'Neil, who has a decent right hand and can take a shot, spends too much time playing around when he should be punching.

Utilizing some leftover moves from a badly dubbed Kung Fu movie, Chris Patterson, 151, Chicago, stepped into the ring against Kevin Mulvey, 150, Chicago. Patterson proceeded to do almost nothing except elicit laughs with his posturing. Mulvey waited until 1:50 of Round Two to dump his high-stepping opponent, moving his record to 6-1-2.

If you have a career .500 fighter who has just returned to the ring after a two-year layoff, you'd want to pop him right in with a 23-1-1 prospect, wouldn't you? What Henry "Goodtime" Mobley, 142, Chicago, was doing in the ring with Victorio Belcher, 142, South Bend, Indiana, in a scheduled six-rounder is a question for minds mightier than mine. As gutty and game as Mobley is, he was no match for Belcher, whose superior height, reach and power finally wore down Mobley at 2:15 of the fourth round. Belcher is an excellent prospect and will be making some racket in the welterweight division before the year is out.

Torrance Martin, 148, Chicago, made it two straight wins with a four-round TKO of Youngstown's Robert Brigges, 145½. Knee problems prevented Brigges from answering the bell for the final round.

Promoter: Cedric Kushner.
Matchmaker: Jack Cowen.
Referees: Stanley Berg & Nate Morgan.
Judges: Mike Glienna, William Lerch, Sonny Duncan & Tim Adams.
Timekeeper: Al Tremari.
Physician: Dr. Michael Treister.
Attendance: 838.
(2-28-88)

JEFF CARLSON

KENTUCKY

▶**FRANKFORT**—Civic Center—It was a much-hyped bout and one carried on national TV by NBC's "Sportsworld," a contest in which Lexington middleweight **Darrin "Schoolboy" Van Horn**, 34-0, 21 KOs, was supposed to display the skills taught him by his respected new trainer, Don Turner. Darrin's previous trainer, his father, G.L. Van Horn, had stepped aside feeling that the father-son relationship was becoming counterproductive.

The selected opponent for the bout was highly regarded, 26-1, Ugandian **John Munduga**, 27, whose only loss was at the hands of Mark Breland.

Knowledgeable ringsiders have long recognized young, 19, Van Horn's weakness: He gets hit too much. His errors are that he stands too erect, places himself in front of his opponents, fails to get the fighter's angle and doesn't move his head. All these faults were expected to be at least partially eliminated by the time of the Munduga meeting. None were.

In a post-fight interview, even Van Horn, who, to his credit, takes a good punch, acknowledged his defensive weakness. "Ask my sparring partners. I don't do it in training," he said. "I'm moving my head and slipping by them. But when I get in a big fight . . ."

In the first canto of the 10-round main event, Munduga displayed his educated jab with the right following smartly behind. He showed the 5'11" Van Horn does not know how to fight a taller man. At times Munduga, a fine technician although a light hitter, made lunging Van Horn look awkward.

In fact, the pattern of the fight, save for the fatal seventh stanza, was set in the first as Munduga outboxed the game, aggressive and seemingly indestructible Van Horn by holding him off with his jab and using the jab to set up an often following right. Munduga's fight was a beautiful display of the art of counterpunching.

The second and third cantos were won by Munduga in the same manner, but the fourth was very close, Munduga landing more punches, "Schoolboy," a sophomore at the University of Kentucky, scoring the harder shots.

The fifth was also close, with Munduga, who had been off for 14 months, possibly beginning to tire under Van Horn's relentless pressure.

Munduga did take the sixth, in *The Ring*'s opinion, punching in combination while Van Horn landed harder single shots.

In the seventh, the pressure finally got to the valiant fighter from Uganda. He had made Van Horn miss — and miss often — all afternoon, but now the punches were getting home. Referee Terry O'Brien called a standing eight count as Munduga covered up on the ropes. Then, in the midst of the count, Munduga's cornermen entered the ring, signaling the end of the bout.

It went into the books as a TKO for Van Horn at 2:12 of the seventh, but in a post-fight interview Munduga said he could have continued.

Mickey Duff, Munduga's manager, was impressed with Van Horn. "He takes a lot more than he should, but so did a lot of great fighters. Jake LaMotta and Rocky Graziano took a lot of hits, but they went on to be great champions."

"Schoolboy," now 35-0 with 22 KOs, is ranked No. 3 by the WBA, No. 5 by the IBF and No. 6 by the WBC.

Promoter Cedric Kushner looks forward to arranging four or five more fights for the talented and personable youngster who recently adorned the cover of *The Ring* — an honor usually reserved for champions — before challenging for one of the three championships.

The current favorite of the alphabet soup titlists for Van Horn to challenge is IBF boss Matthew Hilton. But Hilton is a tremendous puncher and the Van Horn camp realizes "Schoolboy" must improve his defense or he will most certainly be laid low.

Don King, for one, is anxious to promote the match. Since both fighters are white, he said he would call it "The Thrilla in Vanilla."

Popular Louisville heavyweight and Mike Tyson lookalike, **James "Pritch" Pritchard**, now under the tutelage of former champ Jimmy Ellis, upped his record to 17-1-1 by pounding out a KO at 2:28 of the fourth in a scheduled 10-rounder over now 23-12 Mike Cohen of Hilton Head, S.C.

Pritchard's only defeat, a TKO, came at the hands of former champ **Mike Weaver** in a nationally televised bout.

"Pritch" showed the effect of his work with Ellis in overall greater discipline, improved jabbing and increased use of combinations. Only rarely did he throw a wild punch, a trademark in his earlier days.

In other undercard action, middleweight Ralph Ward, Lexington, upped his record to 10-0 with a unanimous decision over Chicagoan William Clayton in a six-round bout.

Lexington lightweight Bryan "Choirboy" Brown beat out a solid six-round unanimous decision over Vince Hudson of Chicago. Brown's record improves to 11-1-1; Hudson's falls to 1-1.

Promoter: Thoroughbred Pro Boxing/Cedric Kushner.
Judges: Jack Kearns, Matthew O'Brien & Roy Kempf.
Announcer: Dave Krusenklaus.
Timekeeper: Chuck Sayer.
Physician: James Ross.
Matchmaker: G.L. Van Horn.
Attendance: 2,300 (est.).
(2-21-88)

JOEL ROITMAN

▶**LOUISVILLE**—Ramada Inn—Four six-rounders and three four-rounders made up this card, Hallendale, Florida's Anthony Logan, 164, producing the quickest ending when he flattened Rick Williams, 165, Indianapolis, in just 2:19 of their scheduled six.

Highland, Indiana's Dan Morgan, 164, stopped Birmingham's Wayne Evans, 164, at 2:59 of the fourth round of another six.

A third six to end inside the distance saw Louisville's Bradley Williams, 145, stop Ft. Wayne, Indiana's Charles Moore, 146½, at 1:42 of the second round.

The lone six to go the route ended in a stalemate, Tim Tipton, 132, sharing honors with Anderson, Indiana's Jerry Bilyeu, 138.

Of the four-rounders, only one failed to go the distance, Louisville's Randy Hunter, 171, stopping Ray Mayers, 158, Indianapolis, at 2:59 of the second.

Louisville's Mickey Eskridge, 136, took a unanimous decision over Lloyd Shadoan, 133, Indianapolis.

Louisville's Eric Whitfield, 128, won unanimously over Ft. Wayne's Ken Brown, 130.

Promoter: Eskridge Enterprises.
Referees: Dixon & Middleton.
Judges: Childers, Griffin & Roitman.
Physician: Ruben.
Timekeeper: Sayre.
(2-26-88)

▶**LOUISVILLE**—Louisville Gardens—Clarksville, Indiana's Tyrone Moore, 150, stopped Cincinnati's Larry Tyson, 150, at 2:15 of the third round of a scheduled 10-rounder.

Louisville's Arthur Weathers, 185, stopped Chuck McDowell, 190½, St. Louis, Missouri, at 2:30 of the second round of a scheduled six.

Another scheduled six ended even faster, Louisville's Terry Collier, 165, knocking out Cincinnati's Jeff Foster, 160, in just 2:30.

Three four-rounders filled out the card.

Louisville's James Ruff, 140, stopped Cincinnati's Arthur Hall, 135, at 2:00 of the third of a good scrap.

Bristol's Mark Carrier, 198, won all four rounds in decisioning Cincinnati's Tom Barnes, 209.

Bristol's Craig Mead, 185, knocked out Cincinnati's Tim McCurdy, 182, in the opening round.

Promoter: TKO Sports Promotions.

Referees: O'Brien & Floyd.

Judges: Mullins, Kempf & Knopf.

Timekeeper: Peyton.

Physician: Greathouse.

(2-26-88)

LOUISIANA

▶**NEW ORLEANS**—Riverboat Hallelujah—Paul Whittaker, whose lone loss was a split decision to **Wilfred Benitez**, returned from more than a year's layoff to TKO Irvin Hines in the fifth round of a scheduled 10.

Whittaker went into the jewelry business and found it too demanding to continue his boxing career. Now, with his business well organized, Whittaker has resumed his career as a middleweight.

Upping his record to 21-1, Whittaker dropped Hines in the fourth, then put him down again in the fifth, both trips to the canvas coming courtesy of body shots. When Hines got up from the second knockdown, Whittaker resumed his stomach thumping and Hines waved a signal of surrender, referee Lucien Joubert granting him his wish at 1:22.

Hines, who resides in Winston-Salem, North Carolina, dropped to 19-14. He told Mario Cruz of *The Times-Picayune*, "He caught me with a shot to the solar plexus early and that stunned me. He knew it and kept coming after me. Then he started hitting me with more and more hard shots. When I went down the first time, it was because it pained me. The last time, it was just too much to bear."

Whittaker, who resides in Metairie, wants **Roberto Duran** next, though he admitted to Cruz, "I was a little ring rusty. It took me a little while to get started, but I caught him with an excellent left hook. I knew I started hurting him in the second round because every time I hit him in the body, he moaned and groaned. I feel really good, and I think I'm ready for Duran."

Making his pro debut after dabbling in kickboxing, Waggaman's John Garner flattened St. Bernard's Billy Fleetwood with a left hook in Round Three of their scheduled six-round welterweight match. Fleetwood, who suffered his first loss in 10 starts, floored Garner in the second.

Houston lightweight Joe Marino survived a first-round knockdown to remain unbeaten at 4-0 with a six-round, unanimous decision over Bogalusa's Antonio Carter, who fell to 3-2.

Covington heavyweight Lavell Stanley improved to 14-4 with a unanimous, six-round win over Houston's Ray Gonzalez, who fell to 9-6.

Baton Rouge middleweight George Hobbs stopped Raymond Coleman of Covington in the fourth of a scheduled six.

(2-23-88)

MARYLAND

▶**GLEN BURNIE**—La Fontaine Bleu—Another sellout crowd of over 1,100 fans as promoter Max Kisner continues to endure tireless efforts to bring professional boxing back into Maryland. Kisner is to receive the Eli Hanover award, which is presented to the person contributing the most to boxing in Maryland. Past winners include Sugar Ray Leonard.

The main event of this "St. Patrick's Day Show" had Victor Davis, 147, Bowie, Md., battle "Stinging" Steve Mitchell, 144, Youngstown, Ohio, in a scheduled eight. Davis developed a strategy of switching to southpaw midway through each round. This confused Mitchell, and any progress he had made would be nullified. The actual cause for the premature ending, however, was a nasty cut over the left eye of Mitchell, enabling Davis to win on a fifth-round TKO when Steve was not allowed out for Round Six. Ref; Larry Barrett.

In what was termed a "busy fight, but not a "hard fight" by Frank Gilbert, who manages Chuck "Pit Bull" Sturm, 138, Glen Burnie, the co-main event was quite exciting in terms of brawling action. Sturm's opponent was Thomas Warren, 138, Winston-Salem, NC, in this eight-rounder that went the route.

The difference in the fight was the excellent shape of Sturm; gaining him a unanimous decision with his aggressive non-stop work. Ref; Milton Greene.

Southpaw George Pindell, 135, Annapolis, Md., took a four-round unanimous decision over the more experienced Donnie Parker, 134, Baltimore, and his flamboyant boxing style. Pindell had Parker switching back and forth, but losing ground. By the last round, Parker presented the classic example of letting it all hang out in a desperate and sometimes comical attempt for a knockout. Ref; Terry Moore.

Victor Davis' brother Demetrius, 144½, Bowie, lost a four-round unanimous decision to Lamark Davis, 148, Dayton, Ohio. Lamark, who was making his initial outing, had the quicker, sharper punches. Ref; Ray Klingmeyer.

In a bout of litte note, Robert Edmunds, 158½, Baltimore, and Andre Hazalwood, 155, Baltimore, started their pro careers by seeing who could throw the least amount of punches; Edmunds won, and thus lost the four-round decision. Good call. Ref; Klingmeyer.

Timekeeper: Izzy Bach.

Promoters: Kisner & Vicki Savaliski as Maryland Showcase.

Matchmaker: Josh Hall.

Announcer: Tony Baldoni.

Judges: Klingmeyer, Greene, Barrett, Moore, Tom & Frank Kelly (no relation) took turns.

(3-10-88)

FRED BLUMSTEIN

▶**BALTIMORE**—Teamsters Hall—Hey, what a great idea. I mean, who'd have ever heard of fights breaking out at a teamsters' local? Well, tonight this smoke filled dimly lit auditorium of local 557 had six of 'em; all under the Marquess of Queensberry rules, mind you. Refreshments were plentiful, and the crowd ate, drank and cheered, not to mention ogling the outrageous walkarounds of the oh so sexily clad ring card babes from the Nasty Habits, Inc. dance troupe!

The scheduled eight-round main event might not have been competitive, but there was no quit in the loser. Oscar Ponce, 139¾, formerly of Argentina, but now boxing out of Ben Getty's Pigtown Gym in Baltimore, went to 3-0 when he won by TKO at just 2:28 of Round One over Jose Laborde, 138, of D.C. The always energetic and free-swinging (I have seen both his previous bouts) Ponce wasted little time in the feeling-out process. He dropped Jose twice via single right hands. Jose dusted himself off and got back up, but after Laborde was trapped in his own corner, referee Milton Greene saw no point in letting this one go on.

British import Pat Barrett, 135, now residing in Ft. Washington, Md. and under the wing of Dave Jacobs, had his U.S. debut and brought his record (according to him) to 9-1-1 with a controversial six-round split decision over switch-hitting spoiler, Donny Parker, 132, Balt.

It was a clear case of favoritism of styles. Barrett, in the more controlled boxer's jab/right-cross technique, or the slap-happy windmill shenanigans of Parker. While judges Tom Kelly and Greene had it a 60-54 shutout for Barrett, Ray Klingmeyer saw it nearly the opposite at 60-55, Parker. *The Ring* card read 58-57 Parker, feeling that Pat wasted a bit too much time surveying the next jive move of his foe. Ref; Larry Barrett

Four four rounders opened the evening.

In a pairing of pro debuts, Bill Jasnowski, 123, Hillcrest Heights, Md., showed a patient educated stance with timing punches that looked to be beyond a rookie's grasp. He convincingly defeated Alfredo Taylor, 118, Panama, now out of Baltimore. A well-placed right was the key weapon, dropping Taylor with it in the fourth.

Scores: Kelly, 39-36, Greene, 38-36, and Barrett, 40-36. *The Ring* saw it 40-35. Ref; Klingmeyer

Poor Mike Williams, 157, Baltimore, found out what it means to be thrown in over your head the first time around when he was picked apart and TKO'd at 2:31 of the first by Dwight Hunter, 159, Kannoplis, NC. The smooth Hunter (now 6-2) let Williams shoot his bolt in the first minute, then proceeded to clean up. A visibly exhausted Williams was saved from an official knockdown or further needless harm when referee Klingmeyer stopped the bout.

Nelson Garcia, 175, Baltimore, and John "King Bee" Keys, 169, also Baltimore, played checkers all through their action affair. Both whacked away at the mid-section as they took turns putting the other on the ropes, but it was Garcia who had the more effective moves (rallies) to take a unanimous decision. Garcia was making his initial start, while Keys fell to 3-4. Scores: Kelly, 40-37, while Barrett and Greene both saw it 39-37. *The Ring* had it a 38-38 draw. Ref; Klingmeyer.

Kelvin McCoy, 154, Spring Lake, NC, had a successful opening as he closed the reach gap on his stringbean opponent, Andre Hazelwood, 154, Baltimore. A leaping left hook dropped Hazelwood in the first, and in the next round a jarring right had Andre holding on so resolutely that referee Barrett saw no other solution but to disqualify the guilty Hazelwood and award the disqualification win to Garcia at 2:32 of the second.

Timekeeper: Izzy Bach.

Promoter: Stuart Satosky and Russell Schaffer under the banner of Baltimore Professional Bouts, Inc.

Matchmaker: Johnny Bos.

Announcer: Tony Balboni.

Attendance: 755 (650 paid).

(3-22-88)

JACK OBERMAYER

MASSACHUSETTS

PHOTO BY JOE MYTHEN

Steve Collins celebrates his victory over Sammy Storey for the Irish middleweight title at Boston Garden. The bout marked the first time an Irish national title had been contested for outside the country's borders.

▶**BOSTON**—Boston Garden—The traditional St. Patrick's Day card was revived at Boston Garden with one bout that set international boxing history and another that marked the return to action of the First Brother of the middleweight division.

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B-A ENTERPRISES

In the main event, Irish middleweight champion Sammy Storey of Belfast put his title on the line against Steve Collins, a native of Dublin who now boxes for the Petronelli Brothers gym in Brockton, Collins emerging victorious by a unanimous decision after 10. The co-feature was the return from limbo of **Robbie Sims** after an 11-month hiatus, Sims stopping Ralph Smiley in the ninth of a scheduled 10.

The Storey/Collins match marked the first time a national title had been contested outside the country's borders. Both came into the bout 8-0 and are friends, though Storey had beaten Collins as an amateur. Collins began his career as a light heavyweight and gradually trained his way down, entering this bout at 158, his lightest ever. Storey, 160, displayed some slick boxing moves, but had suffered an abrasion under his right eye in training and Collins turned it into an ugly cut by the end of the first round.

Collins' strategy was to blunt Storey's boxing skills by rushing inside and turning the match into a brawl. Storey's precise right hand bounced off the jaw of his opponent as Collins stormed forward, but they couldn't slow his attack. Collins ripped shots to the body and worked hard when he got inside, while Storey was reduced to firing single shots, then clinching. The eye cut was being controlled, but the aggression of Collins had Storey on the defensive.

The fourth round was Storey's best as his right jabs and hooks kept Collins at bay and punished him when he charged forward. By the end of the round, Collins was doing the clinching. It was a brief turnaround, however, as Collins regained control in the fifth. Storey did stage rallies in rounds seven and 10, but he could never sustain an attack long enough to turn the tide.

Judges John Costello, 97-96, and Don O'Neill, 98-94, and referee Dick Flaherty, 100-93, all saw it for Collins as did *The Ring*, which scored 98-93.

"It was my first 10-rounder and I paced myself pretty well, although I expended a lot of energy in the ninth," said Collins, who had Storey in serious trouble in that ninth frame. "I thank Sammy for coming over here with the title. It takes a true champion to defend his title in a man's home town. I'll give Sam a return match in Belfast, Dublin or wherever he wants to go.

"I've never been so light before and it felt good," Collins added. "I sparred with Robbie Sims and John Scully, the top amateur, for this bout, so after them Sammy couldn't show me anything new."

The Irish Federation of Boxing gave Collins a huge trophy emblematic of the championship, but Collins, who has his eyes on the New England and USBA titles next, had been hoping for a belt.

"Don't worry, we'll get you a belt," promised manager Pat Petronelli.

No one doubts it can be difficult to be the younger brother of a famous man. And living up to the exploits of a brother like **Marvelous Marvin Hagler** is surely daunting. Still, Sims had wins over Roberto Duran and Doug DeWitt and figured to be included in any vacant title boxoffs after Hagler's reign. But after Hagler/Leonard, Sims put his career on hold while over-indulging the high life. Finally, he hit rock bottom, but eventually got it together, with professional help, on the West Coast. Rededicated to his religion, Sims found solace in prayer and also married his girlfriend, Cory, February 12. Working as a youth counselor at the Brockton YMCA, Sims is resuming his career not as Hagler's kid brother, but simply as Robbie Sims.

Smiley, a rugged journeyman from Ithaca, New York, came in with a 14-9 record and a game plan to glue his head to Sims' chest while pounding away with short hooks. Sims was a bit bewildered by Smiley's hooks-elbows-head offense, but his faster hands soon produced the accurate counterpunches to pick his opponent apart. Sims' right jab dominated the fight when he was able to box outside, and when he doubled up on his right hooks, Smiley began taking serious abuse.

Smiley's best round was the third when a late flurry pinned Sims in a corner, but it was not enough to win the stanza. By the sixth, Sims was connecting with almost every punch he threw and Smiley took six unanswered blows at one point. Sims blasted Smiley throughout the ninth round and when a punishing combination caused Smiley to spin almost completely around, his cornerman jumped onto the ring apron waving the towel.

The TKO came at 1:40 and raised Sims' record to 28-4-2. At the point of stoppage, Sims had not lost a round on any of the scorecards.

"I needed the work," said Sims. "And I needed to show New England and the world that I'm okay. I'm satisfied, but I can do better. I could've been a little faster, but I did what I had to do to win. This guy has got a chin of iron. He was hanging tough, but I knew he was out of it. I'm glad the way it ended up because this guy made me work.

"I wanted to be a professional tonight and get my combinations back together," added Sims. "I've been keeping away from people, places and things, and staying out of clubs. I've put more faith in God and that's bringing me back."

Trainer Goody Petronelli was pleased with the result, saying, "This was an awkward guy, difficult to fight, but Robbie didn't just try for the knockout. He banged inside, flurried inside, and beat him at his own game. His balance, combinations and timing were all good, and his stamina was very good."

Manager Pat agreed, adding, "It was a great fight for his first fight in a year. Physically, we weren't too concerned because we knew he was in shape, but mentally we wondered if he'd be up for it."

Petronelli-trained Mike Cappiello, 130, West Bridgewater, won his third straight with a six-round decision over Holyoke's Jerry Ocampo, 132, in a blistering preliminary.

Lefty Mike Culbert, making his pro debut, made it a clean sweep for the Brockton gym by stopping Worcester's Santiago Hermada at 1:25 of the final round of their four-round welterweight match.

Ex-middleweight champ Hagler watched from ringside and was joined by wife Bertha during the Sims' bout. Hagler told the curious his weight was 166. He's spurned overtures from Tommy Hearns and other matters will be delayed until he finishes filming "Indio" in the Philippines.

Promoter: Al Valenti.
Judges: Don O'Neill & John Costello.
Timekeeper: Jerry Albano.
Referees: Dick Flaherty & Bill Connelly.
Physician: Francis Wixted.
Announcer: Upton Bell.
TV: NESN (delay).
Attendance: 3,954. Gross: $85,000 (est.).
(3-18-88)

JAY N. MILLER

MICHIGAN

▶**STERLING HEIGHTS**—Premier Center—ABC Promotions, Inc. presented a parade of crowd-pleasing bouts featuring the stable of Johnny "Ace" Smith.

Thomas Hearns and **Milton McCrory** were two ringside spectators cheering as McCrory's brother, Steve "The Bluesman," starred in the main event with a five-round TKO of El Paso's Omar Garcia.

Garcia couldn't answer the bell midway through the scheduled 10 featherweight match after McCrory unleashed a barrage of body shots that had Garcia down in the first and hurting throughout.

The victory left McCrory 20-2-1, while Garcia slipped to 14-5.

In the co-main event, **Spencer "The Warrior" Chavis** of Dearborn Heights won a 10-round, unanimous decision over Pat Strachan of Nassau to boost his record to 28-2 in a heavyweight bout. Judge Cynthia Wrobel scored 98-92, Chuck McHenry had it 100-91 and yours truly rounded out the trio with a 99-92 as Strachan, a late replacement, fell to a reported 27-5.

The ring wizardry of Detroit bantamweight **Hurley "Dr. Prescription" Snead** was too much for Mexico's Mario "Mosco" Lozano, who was stopped at 2:19 of the sixth of a scheduled 10. Snead is 33-2, Lozano, 24-5.

Another bantamweight go scheduled for 10 had Detroit's Renaldo "Little Red" Carter stay perfect in 15 starts with a four-round KO of Mexico's Jorge Vasquez, who fell to 13-6. A crushing right to the solar plexus ended matters at 2:53.

Welterweight Ellery "E.T." Thomas got the card off to a bang and remained undefeated to boot as he went 8-0 just 57 seconds into the first stanza, stopping Tucson, Arizona's Gabriel Guzman. Guzman, 4-5, was down twice.

Referees: Bobby Watson & Bob Fisher.
Announcer: Ernie Robinson.
Timekeeper/Knockdowns: William Hunter & William Hunter Jr.
Physicians: Ralph Sachs & Saul Shapiro.
Announcer: Ernie Robinson.
Attendance: 475.
(2-23-88)

TOM PARUSZKIEWICZ

NEVADA

▶**LAS VEGAS**—Bally's—In a mild surprise, **Luis Santana** won the NABF welterweight title, stopping **Shawn O'Sullivan** at 1:57 of the 11th round.

The 29-year-old Dominican Republic native trained by Jimmy Montoya since 1981 was in a must-win situation, as Montoya acknowledged.

"I told Luis if he blew this fight to O'Sullivan, it was all over," said Montoya. "O'Sullivan's people, including **Sugar Ray Leonard**, figured they had a mark considering Santana had three tough losses in four starts in 1987. But Louis knew his responsibilities and kept the pressure on every step of the way. Santana has now fought 23 times in Vegas and this is his 21st victory."

It was a bitter loss for O'Sullivan, a 1984 Silver Medalist at the LA Olympics. Making only his third start this side of the border, O'Sullivan saw his credentials dip to 17-2 with 12 KOs.

O'Sullivan had a puffy eye and a chipped upper tooth from a clash of heads in the third round, but there was no room for excuses as Santana improved his record to 32-7-2 with 23 KOs.

"It was just one of those nights most fighters dread—an off night where I just blew it," the Canadian admitted. "I was getting tagged with a variety of shots I normally don't get tagged with. I had no strength in my legs and body from the first round on.

Santana may appear to be in front of you, but he's very difficult to hit," O'Sullivan added. "Mentally, I was trying to pull it out, but physically I just couldn't do it."

O'Sullivan, who weighed 146¾ as did Santana, was quicker and more elusive than the ever-forward Santana, but kept getting tagged with long, overhand rights to the head. Had Santana possessed greater power, he might have stopped the Irishman late in the sixth round when he backed him into a neutral corner with four chopping rights. O'Sullivan tried to pick it up in the ninth and 10th with steady combinations, but Santana buckled his legs in the latter round.

O'Sullivan started the 11th aggressively, but Santana drove him into the ropes with a right and sent him tipping over on his left side with an unanswered salvo. O'Sullivan was bleeding from the mouth when he rose and referee Richard Steele wisely stopped it when Santana hammered O'Sullivan into his own corner with five shots to the head.

In a 10-round semi-windup, Lupe Miranda, a 21-year-old boxer-puncher from Fort Worth, Texas, did a number on Las Vegas' Dana Roston to move closer to

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a shot at the USBA 130-pound crown held by **Harold "The Shadow" Knight**. Miranda improved his record to 15-2 with 11 KOs, using a steady body attack to wear down the faster Roston, whose reading is now 15-5-2 with seven KOs. The Mexican's methodical attack began to wear on Roston, 130½, by the sixth round and Miranda, 131, knocked him down in the eighth, but settled for a decision.

Joey "Pasadena Kid" Olivera, 136, Pasadena, California, scored a mild upset when he won an eight-round split decision over Chris Calvin, 133, Nashville, Tennessee. Olivera is 21-11-1 with eight KOs, Calvin, 23-6-2 with 22 KOs.

Quincy Taylor, 156½, a Sugar Ray Leonard protege out of Dallas, Texas, raced to his eighth straight victory when he chilled previously unbeaten Malcom Shaw, 154, Stockton, California, at 1:20 of the first round. Shaw falls to 10-1-1 with five KOs.

Lorenzo Holloway, 208, Los Angeles, made his pro debut with a majority four-round decision over Sim Warrior, 217, Los Angeles.

Brett Hughes, 177, Las Vegas, TKO'd Tim Davis, 177, Las Vegas, at 1:32 of the fourth round.

Promoter: Top Rank, Inc.

TV: ESPN.

(1-8-88)

▶**LAS VEGAS**—Showboat Hotel/Casino—**Roger Mayweather** hopes a little work will go a long way.

The WBC junior welterweight titleholder's recent tuneup wasn't quite what the 27-year-old transplanted Las Vegan had in mind.

Mayweather expected Philadelphia's Marvin Garris to go all out as a spoiler, but wound up with an easy seven-round TKO.

Mayweather, now 30-5 with 21 KOs, had his most exercise trying to catch Garris, 142, whose ledger dipped to 13-6-1 with five KOs, the end finally coming at 2:58 of the seventh when Mayweather, 141½, rocked him several times after dropping him in the previous frame.

In a heavyweight bout scheduled for eight, Michael Arms, 193, Eugene, Oregon, outshelled previously undefeated Cecil Coffee, 200, Raceland, Kentucky, for a TKO when the latter couldn't come out for the fourth round. Coffee, 19-1-2, had won three rounds of the slugfest, but picked up a cut left eye in the second, which ultimately shortened the bout as Arms improved to 11-4.

Akeem Anifowoshe, 117, Las Vegas, continues to get better and better, this time stopping outgunned Miguel Juarez, 118½, Los Angeles, at 1:28 of the second round for his eighth straight victory. Juarez is 4-3.

Roberto Cantu, 131, Las Vegas, scored a mild upset when he TKO'd Phoenix's Art Blackmore, 129, at 2:03 of the third round of a scheduled six.

Steve Damian, 168, Phoenix, won a four-round split decision over Las Vegas' Adrian Riggs, 170, who was making his pro debut.

Promoter/Matchmaker: Showboat & Mel Greb.

(1-5-88)

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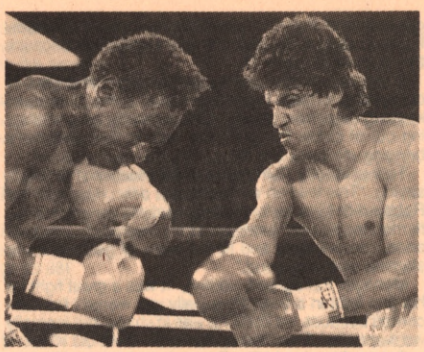


"Cubanito" Perez (right) returned to action following a lengthy layoff to outpoint tough Lou Benson over 10 rounds at the Showboat.

PHOTO BY CHRIS FARINA

▶**LAS VEGAS**—Showboat Hotel/Casino—**Luis Santana**, at 151, wasn't risking his NABF welterweight crown, but that didn't matter as he chilled Rod Starks, 151, Cypress, California, at 2:26 of the second round of a scheduled 10.

Irleis "Cubanito" Perez, 141¾, Las Vegas, beat durable Lou Benson, 140½, San Jose, but was extended to the 10-round limit.

Santana ended the action with a right uppercut, and a left hook. Starks slipped to the second rope strand, then reeled across the ring as referee Toby Gibson checked his condition. He wanted to continue, but commission physician Dr. James Gaines ordered the bout abbreviated.

Perez was coming back after a seven-month layoff and there were times the rust was evident. Perez improved his ledger to 35-3, but called Benson, "one of the toughest opponents I have fought." Benson fell to 17-10 with eight KOs.

Israel Cole, 162, Las Vegas, outpunched Alberto Gonzalez, 161, Reno, for a unanimous eight-round decision.

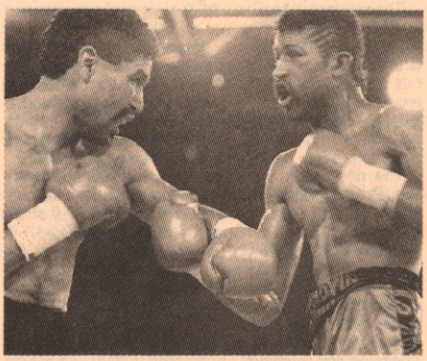
Las Vegas' Harpel Talhan, 136, moved to his 10th straight victory, stopping Jerold McNeal, 133, Houston, Texas, at 1:31 of the fourth.

Terry Sveen, 173, Las Vegas, rebounded from a second-round knockdown to win a unanimous four-round decision over Adrian Riggs, 171, Las Vegas.

Promoters: Showboat & Mel Greb.

Attendance: 1,700.

(2-12-88)



Royan Hammond (right) mixes it up with Luis Santana en route to a 10-round split decision victory in Las Vegas. Hammond upset the streaking Santana by a narrow margin to raise his unbeaten log to 16-0 with seven KOs.

PHOTO BY CHRIS FARINA

▶**LAS VEGAS**—Showboat Hotel/Casino—Blood didn't run freely, but there was a smack of real-life "Rocky" when **Royan Hammond** of Vallejo, California, made a spring debut in Las Vegas.

For four rounds of a scheduled 10, **Luis Santana's** unrelenting offense indicated there apparently would be no decision. Suddenly, the 25-year-old Hammond turned a crowd of more than 2,000 in his direction when he began to use his foot and hand speed to elude Santana's crowding tactics.

Hammond scored solidly with jabs in the sixth and seventh rounds, opening a slight cut over Santana's left eye. It was sweet revenge for the fourth when Santana had Hammond reeling from a left-right and almost dropped him with another right before the bell.

The 10th was textbook fury as the rugged rivals fought almost the full three minutes toe-to-toe.

Judges Paul Smith and Jerry Roth tabbed it 97-92 and 95-93, respectively, for Hammond, while Cyndi Barton voted for Santana, 95-93. *The Ring* card was 95-94, Santana, who had one point deducted by referee Joey Curtis for a low blow in the 10th.

Hammond improved his record to 16-0 with seven KOs, while Santana, whose NABF welterweight title was not at stake, dipped to 32-8-1 with 27 KOs.

"Santana stunned me a couple of times, but I was in good shape and able to take those shots," said Hammond. "I knew he had knockout on his mind, but I was just biding my time."

Engels Pedroza, *The Ring*'s Prospect of the Year for 1987, continued to show why he merited that honor, blitzing Tyrone Cotton of Dallas, Texas in one round. The 21-year-old Pedroza, of Venezuela now based in Long Beach, California, moved to 16 straight knockouts in just 45 seconds.

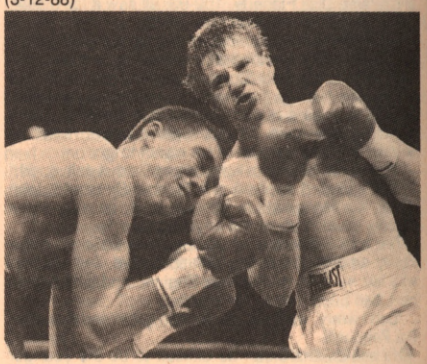
Harpal Talhan, 136½, Las Vegas, advanced to 11-0 with a hard-fought, but unanimous six-round decision over Lamart Baker, 138, Las Vegas.

Swedish-born Terry Sveen, 174, Las Vegas, ruined the pro debut of localite Michael Beasley, winning a four-round split decision. Sveen is 4-0.

Las Vegas' John Tunstall, 161½, evened his mark at 1-1 when he stopped Francisco Diaz, 161, Bell, California, at 1:30 of the second round.

Promoters: Showboat & Mel Greb.

(3-12-88)



"Irish" Micky Ward (right) wings an uppercut at the head of Joey Olivares during their 10-rounder at Bally's. Ward won a unanimous decision to push his pro record to 16-1 with 11 KOs.

PHOTO BY CHRIS FARINA

▶**LAS VEGAS**—Bally's—Keith Stevenson met a spoiler in Delio Palacios, a 25-year-old Texan making his first local appearance in five years.

Palacios wrapped up a unanimous, 10-round decision that probably ruined Stevenson's anticipated NABF junior lightweight title shot.

Stevenson, 132, made no excuses as his record dipped to 26-3-1 with 15 KOs, while Palacios improved to 25-5 with five KOs.

Lou Tabat and Paul Smith both scored 97-92, while Dalby Shirley saw it 98-91.

Irish Micky Ward, 139, Lowell, Massachusetts, returned to the west with too much hand speed for Joey "Pasadena Kid" Olivares, 137¼, winning a unanimous, 10-round decision. Ward raised his record to 16-1 with 11 KOs.

Jerry Page, 140¾, Columbus, Ohio, displayed the boxing skill that won him a gold medal at the '84 Olympics with a slick, eight-round decision over Martin Quiroz, 142, San Jose. Page is 8-0 with four KOs, while Quiroz fell to 31-15-4 with 22 KOs.

Melton Bowen, 213½, an 18-year-old power puncher from Miami, rocked rugged Don Coats, 250, East Palo Alto, California, in the first and second rounds but settled for a unanimous, six-round decision to improve to 8-0 with seven KOs.

Karama Leota, 160, Salt Lake City, moved to 9-1 with eight KOs when he dropped Rocky Granillo, 156, Tucson, three times for a TKO at 2:45 of the first.

Veti Katoa, 220½, Salt Lake City, hammered Randy

Davis, 200, Los Angeles, into a first-round TKO, the latter not answering the bell for the second. Katoa is 3-1 with three KOs.
Promoter: Top Rank, Inc.
TV: ESPN.
(2-19-88)

JACK WELSH

▶**CARSON CITY**—Ormsby House—Karama Leota improved his record to 10-1, scoring his eighth knockout when he stopped Fernando "Torpedo" Garcia in the second of a scheduled eight middleweight encounter.

Garcia, of Mexicali, Mexico, was on the defensive from the first bell, but displayed a good jab that bloodied the nose of Leota before the first three minutes had wound down. Leota continued putting on pressure in the second and midway through the round staggered Garcia with a left to the chin.

Leota then pinned Garcia in a corner, landing two more good hooks followed by a right that sent Garcia to the deck face-first. Garcia tried to get up, but couldn't beat the count of referee Mills Lane, the end coming at 2:44.

Caldwell, Idaho lightweight Lorenzo Garcia used a fourth-round knockdown to edge a majority decision over Portland, Oregon's Billy Martinez in a six-round bout. Garcia scored the knockdown with a body shot.

The rest of the card consisted of scheduled four-rounders.

Vallejo, California middleweight Virgil Green won unanimously over Oregon's Ken Ward, though he had to survive a first-round knockdown to get the nod. Green was floored by a left hook and barely beat the count. But before the round was over, Green had evened the score, decking Ward with a right to the head.

Oregon middleweight Pedro Aguilar won a close, majority decision over Reno's Elias Mayorga.

Reno welterweight Johnny Turner took a unanimous decision over Caldwell, Idaho's Aisea Loumoli.

Caldwell lightweight Ray Garcia stopped Jesse Madrilles at 1:19 of the third, flooring Madrilles with a left hook to the body before dropping him for good with a flurry.

Promoter: Mashelle Begovich.
Referees: Mills Lane & Norm Budden.
(3-5-88)

NEW JERSEY

▶**ATLANTIC CITY**—Resorts Int'l—In a thrice-made main event, **Fred Pendleton** stepped in at the last minute and finally managed a bout without controversy, upset or questionable scoring. All Fred, 141, Phila., did was make it look easy, stopping Steve Larrimore, 137½, Nassau, Bahamas, at 2:43 of the fourth, scheduled 10. The overmatched Larrimore's manager deserves rebuke as Steve was rumored "scared to death." Pendleton, confident to the point of disdain, quickly pinned the normally mobile Larrimore's elbows to his sides, while cutting down his movement with a crunching body attack. Steve was able to mount little offense, with a swiping right behind the ear wobbling him in the third. Ref Rudy Battle gave a standing eight, then stopped it in the following round. Larrimore tried to go southpaw in desperation, but when that failed he wilted and took a pounding.

"I had seen him box and move more in his fights. He was just standing there against me," observed Fred, who rose to 21-15-3. Larrimore fell to 14-2.

In the co-feature, Vinnie Burgese, 140, Phila., outgunned John Rafuse, 139, Malden, Mass., to take a unanimous decision 10. The two forward-gear sluggers pounded on each other's heads with jackhammer regularity in an incredible exhibition of offense. Burgese did bob and move to some extent, while maintaining a relentless output. Rafuse eschewed defense altogether while offering his head as a sacrifice to draw Vinnie into rock-'em, sock-'em exchanging. The fans enjoyed a bonanza, but this kind of action will invoke the law of diminishing returns on their careers. Vinnie appeared to earn only an edge with a blazing finish, but John Stewart voted 98-92, "Rocky" Castellani 98-95 and Joe Pasquale 97-94. The unbeaten Burgese won his 14th, while Rafuse lost his fourth straight to become 15-8. Ref, Steve Smoger.

Frankie Mitchell, 131¾, Phila., got a big assist from the judges in preserving his unbeaten record against Tommy Hanks, 132, Cleveland, eight. The brawling Hanks overwhelmed the slicker Mitchell in the middle rounds, ruffling his concentration with a cut left eye. A desperation rally in the seventh appeared to fall short, but not to the myopic judges. Stewart voted 78-75, Pasquale 79-74 and Rocky an appalling 80-72. Mitchell won his 19th, while Hanks fell to 14-3. Ref, Smoger.

Promising Lenny Bainbridge, 135¾, Reading, got back on track, upsetting touted Jorge Collazo, 137, Plainfield, with a solid, unanimous win, four. The stalking Bainbridge pressured the classy Collazo throughout, and Jorge was unable to take the heat. Lenny went to 5-1, and Jorge to 4-2-1. Ref, Battle.

Davey Franco, 136, Plainfield, KO'd Robert Hightower, 136, Phila., at 2:25 of the second, scheduled four. The attacking Hightower walked into a left hook to suffer a standing eight, then was blitzed by the same shot. Ref, Battle.

Promoter: Bob Arum (Top Rank, Inc.).
Matchmakers: Teddy Brenner & Ron Katz.
Attendance: 1,500 (Est.).
TV: ESPN.
Timekeeper: Lindsey Tucker.
Announcer: Mike Buffer.
(3-16-88)

J.R. JOWETT

▶**EAST RUTHERFORD**—Meadowlands Sheraton—Dinner and boxing do mix as this rather successful venture celebrated its first anniversary (seventh card) of ballroom boxing with a step up in exposure. Former world titleholder **Davey Moore** of The Bronx topped this five-bout presentation that had local press shoulder to shoulder before the cameras of a (semi) big-time cable operation.

Moore, at 158, was trying yet another time to put his mostly derailed career back on track. Though he won this scheduled 10 over Hector Rosario, 161, also The Bronx, the now 16-6 (13 by KO) Moore showed little improvement defensively. He came out firing combinations to completely dominate (sweeping rounds one and two and getting two 10-8 scores in Round One) a less mobile Rosario.

Round Three saw Hector finally get in some quality lefts and rights that kept Moore at bay (Rosario won the third on *The Ring* card as well as that of one of the judges). The fourth looked to be unfolding in same when a clash of heads (of course Moore would say it was from his right hand) had Rosario spring a nasty leak on the outside corner of his left eye. This spurred Davey on and he kept up a steady barrage of punches for the balance of the session. Hector went back to his corner a bloody mess, and it was stopped between rounds, giving Moore a fourth-round TKO win. Ref; Joe Cortez.

Afterwards, Moore declared himself "a little rusty" and said that he wants to get right back at it if his new managers can line things up. Trainer Johnny Persol has work to do.

Alphonso Bailey, 158¼, Jersey City, NJ, never gave Sidney Gantz, 157, Reading, Pa., a chance to set up shop as he used a busy jab, two-handed flurries and good all-around movement to take a clear eight-round decision. Bailey capped his fine performance by registering a standing eight count in the final heat. Bailey is now listed at 15-1-1, six KOs. Scores: John Reily, 79-74, Ron Burns, 79-73, and Eva Shain at 78-74. *The Ring* saw it as Burns did. Ref; Paul Venti.

An anticipated fine matchup went awry when Clarence Coleman, 141, (now 12-1-1) Newark, NJ, took a rather surprising eight-round unanimous decision over Henry "Sugar" Hughes, (now 11-1), 144, Cleveland, Ohio. "Classy" Clarence's margin was to sucker Hughes in and then shut him down. Neither man landed anything of note, with Coleman having the clear upper hand on the outside, with Hughes desperately flailing away harmlessly on the inside.

Scores: Reily and Burns agreed at 78-74, while Shain had it 79-73. *The Ring* card saw each negating the other and coming to a 76-76 draw. Ref; Cortez.

Junior Edmonds, 182, Newark, NJ, now under the management of Ed Gersch, has gone beyond squandering a once promising career away with dreary performances such as this latest one in which he labored to finally get a seventh-round TKO win (not out for Round Eight of this scheduled eight) over survivor Robert Obey, 188, Columbus, Ohio.

A bleeding Obey, who won only Round Six, was dropped by a left hook late in the seventh. Why have it go on, indeed? Ref: Venti.

Southpaw Edwin Ruiz, 136, Elizabeth, NJ, used just the right timing and distance to easily chop up bewildered Lou Palumbo, 142, Brooklyn over six near shutout rounds. While never down, (Ruiz is no banger) Palumbo slowly became an inviting target and by fight's end he had a cut over a nearly shut right eye. Scores: Reily and Burns agreed at 60-54, while Shain had it 58-56. *The Ring* tally read 59-54 for Ruiz. Ref; Cortez.

Timekeeper: Justin Bucanico.
Promoter: Hudson County Enterprises and C.N.R. Promotions.

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(3-18-88)

JACK OBERMAYER

NEW YORK

▶**NEW YORK CITY**—Felt Forum—**Michael Dokes** (237, Las Vegas) continued to slouch along the comeback trail with an unconvincing 10-round stoppage of shopworn Eddie Richardson (228, Fort Worth) in the main event. Dokes appeared to be in somewhat better shape than his previous performance here, but was still slow and lumbering. He won most of the rounds, but this was due mainly to Richardson's utter lack of skill. Richardson hurt Dokes in the fourth with a big left hook and gradually closed Michael's left eye as the bout wore on. But Dokes woke up in the last round in which there was plenty of action from both. A left hook finally dropped Richardson for a nine count; he rose to be immediately dropped again for the same count by the same punch, at which point a pair of ring physicians entered the ring, usurping the authority of ref Luis Rivera, who looked like he was about to halt matters anyway. The official time was 2:18. Dokes, 32-1-2, 19 kayoes, has now won three in a row inside the distance. Richardson's record is 12-9, six kayoes.

Tyrone Jackson, (131, Harlem) fattened his record to 27-1, 22 by kayo, by stopping one Robinson Sanchez (128, Miami) at 2:08 of the third in a scheduled 10. It was a bad fight: Jackson simply beat his man up in very dull style; ref Carl Schroeder stopped it with Sanchez battered and bleeding but still upright. He's now 14-5, seven kayoes.

In another taking-no-chances match, Philadelphia's Myron Taylor went to 23-6-2, 12 kayoes, with a two-round stoppage of Francis Childs in a scheduled 10. Childs actually won the first round, but for some reason he switched to a southpaw stance in the second, leaving himself wide open. Taylor swiftly decked his fellow Philadelphian with a sweeping left hook; Childs got up wobbly and ref Sammy Viruet stopped it at the 1:54 mark. Childs, now 9-6 with four kayoes, weighed 128, as did Taylor.

Comebacking Gino Gelormino (131½, Levittown, N.Y.) stopped Norman "Psycho" Bates (129½, Indianapolis) at 1:20 of the sixth in a scheduled 10. This was a good competitive fight in which Gelormino systematically wore his man down, although not without some trouble. A hard combination that rocked Bates late in the fifth round was the beginning of the end; after the first minute of the sixth, Bates was bleeding and wobbly and in serious trouble. Rivera stopped it at just the right time. Gelormino's record is now 23-1, 15 kayoes; Bates' is 10-1-1, two kayoes.

Aaron Davis (152, The Bronx) stayed unbeaten at 15-0, eight kayoes, when Jesus Velez (159, New York City) failed to come up for Round Three in a scheduled eight. Velez (7-12, two kayoes) had come into the ring with an Ace bandage on his knee and claimed to have re-injured that knee at the end of the second round. Some ringsiders were unkind enough to insinuate that the knee re-injury had been caused by a terrific blow to the head. Harry Smith refereed.

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In a rotten one scheduled for six, Ricardo Cepeda (124, New York City), went to 6-0-1, five kayoes, at the expense of Floyd Simmons (125, Baltimore) who took his sixth loss against three wins. The first two rounds were dull sparring, with a clear advantage to Cepeda; Simmons simply ran out of gas in the third, although he'd not exerted himself much, and ref Sammy Viruet stopped it before any damage could be done.

Providence's Greg Towns won his fifth in as many starts, his third by kayo, scoring a mild upset by stopping tough Brooklynite Pedro Marquez in the opening round of a scheduled six. The hard-hitting Marquez, now 5-3 with five stoppages, walked into a perfect right uppercut and plunged to the floor for an eight-count. He looked okay on arising, but Smith allowed him to take only one more punch before stopping the fight at the 2:05 mark. Towns weighed 171, Marquez 166.

Merqui Sosa (166, New York City) went to 3-0 with a dull but inoffensive four-round decision over Terminator Coles (167, Brooklyn), who saw his record level off to 2-2. Judges George DeGabriel, Harold Lederman and Nick Cimino and *The Ring* had Sosa up 3-1. Harry Smith refereed.

Promoter: Madison Square Garden Boxing.
Matchmaker: Bob Goodman.
Timekeeper: Cecilio Pedraja.
Attendance 2,200 (est.).
(2-24-88)

JOSEPH D'O'BRIAN

▶**GLENS FALLS**—South Granville's Kevin Daigle, 156, took the scheduled 10-round main event by TKO in the ninth, stopping Quebec's Jacques Deblois, 155.

An eight-rounder between Montreal's Francis Barrington, 129, and Cincinnati's Sonny Long, 123¾, ended in a draw.

The remainder of the card consisted of three bouts scheduled for four rounds each.

Ricardo Smith, 159, Syracuse, decisioned Jaime Cordova, 161, Brooklyn.

Vernon Philips, 151, Troy, decisioned Anthony Smith Rorie, 147, Wallingford, Connecticut.

Patrick Mike Robinson, 213, Saratoga Springs, knocked out Marion Butler, Springfield, Massachusetts, in the first.

Promoter: Final Round Promotions.
Referees: Ucci & Papacharalambous.
Judges: Rubenstein, Pier & Kintz.
(2-5-88)

OKLAHOMA

▶**OKLAHOMA CITY**—Central Plaza Hotel—Popular local heavyweight **Jerry "Wimpy" Halstead** knocked out substitute Greg Garrell of Wichita, Kansas, in the eighth round of the scheduled 10-round main event.

The end came at 1:25.

Middleweight Ron Malaek stopped Ricky Lewis in the third round.

Welterweight Rodney Porter knocked out Fudial Rezzag with just one minute remaining in their scheduled six.
(2-16-88)

PENNSYLVANIA

▶**SHARON**—Sheraton Inn — A small, five-bout club show brought boxing back to this Ohio border town after an absence of 37 years.

In the six-round main event, Shawn Spinda, 137, Worthington, Kentucky, stopped Fernando Ruperto, 136, Youngstown, at 2:39 of the fourth round.

Although Ruperto had been down twice in the fourth via the straight left of the southpaw Spinda, he seemed to be slipping blows rather well along the ropes when the bout was stopped.

Mike McGrady, 196, Butler, and comebacking Joel "Dynamo" Hum, 192, Erie, waged a see-saw, pier-sixer over six rounds that brought the house down. Hum, who lost a great deal of blood along the way, nearly had McGrady out of there in the first, but the tough Irishman hung in to outbrawl the crude Hum for a unanimous win. Herb Scott scored it 28-27, while Paddy Grimes and Bob Baker each had 28-26.

Carl Sullivan, 162, Pittsburgh, scored a knockout over Dan Mitchell, 160½, Pittsburgh, at the 1:29 mark of the fifth, scheduled six. Mitchell was wobbled by a right hand and a follow-up flurry put him down for the count.

Sharon's Glenn Odem, 154, took a majority, four-round nod over Rodney Tatum, 156, Akron, in a bout that featured several bristling exchanges. Scott saw it 19-17, Baker, 18-18, and Andy DePaul, 19-18.

Promoter: Mike Acri.
Matchmaker: Mike Acri.
Announcer: Don DeGenther.
(3-16-88)

ERICH GLIEBE

▶**PHILADELPHIA—Northeast Nat'l Guard Armory**—The Deborah Hospital Fund card was revived, and happily coincided with an open date for Budweiser Beer's monthly telecast. The long-running charity show had been an annual highlight into the early Seventies, but terminated upon the death of matchmaker Jack Puggy. The revival was a big success for the hospital, drawing a near-sellout, and for the fans, with an excellent main event. But split-decision loser Frankie Swindell felt the charity had begun at home. Indeed, he could make a case after two local judges outvoted the "import" to give Vaughn Hooks, 175, Phila., the vacant USBA light heavy title over Swindell, 175, Nashville, in a razor-close 12.

"You shouldn't have to kill a man to beat him," Frankie protested. "Who threw the more effective punches? Me. Who was the better boxer? Me. Who was more aggressive? Me. Who slipped more punches? Me . . . But I should have known I wasn't going to get a fair shake from three Philadelphia judges." Actually, the visiting New Jersey official, Frank Brunette, scored for Swindell, 115-113, but was outvoted by two locals. Manny Altman had 115-113 the other way, and Adalaide Tyndale an untenable 116-111.

Frankie can be excused if his account wasn't completely objective. This was an "either way" verdict if ever there was. A sneaky left hook counter surprised Vaughn onto the seat of his trunks late in the fourth, but he bounced up relatively unhurt. Frankie tried to take control in the following session, but lunged into a booming right uppercut and was nearly dumped just shy of the bell. Both aimed to assert dominance in a frantic sixth that saw more staggering than a Bowery Saturday night. The visitor seemed to edge it with a stronger finish, but the furious action left neither in any condition to keep it up. Hooks at least kept his hands moving, While Frankie coasted a couple of rounds.

Action warmed again in the ninth as Hooks appeared to edge it with a steadier attack. He carried this into a strong 10th, and seemed on his way to a clear victory. But the waters muddied when the local tired in the 11th, getting stunned by a right along the ropes. A hectic 12th saw the exhausted Hooks struggling just to stay in the fight, but sticking his hands out enough to keep Swindell from turning it into a rout. The decision drew a mixed reception as Hooks gained his 16th win without a loss, while Frankie went to 15-3. Frank Cappuccino refereed.

A rusty Chris "The Worm" Guest, 164½, N.E. Phila., was lucky to escape with a unanimous verdict over Kenny Page, 165, N. Phila., in an unpleasing six. The reluctant Page let "Worm" build a lead, but had him wriggling frantically once he got him on the hook in the closing rounds. Ref, Ozzie Sadler.

Similarly, Kevin Bernard, 177½, Kensington, could only get a split draw with Mike DeVito, 175, Cleveland, in a rugged, but sloppy six. The unbeaten Bernard did not look good in his fifth start and had to survive a rocky sixth. Ref, Sadler.

Debuting Sam Speach, 216, W. Phila., blasted out Ed Fennimore, 217, Bristol, PA, at 1:12 of a spectacular first, scheduled four. The charging Fennimore was floored by a counter combo, lurching up to be rescued by Cappuccino. Ed fell to 1-2.

Promoter: John Tarlini & HBA Inc.
Matchmaker: Harold Moore.
Attendance: 3,500, $45,000.
TV: Bud Sports.
Judges (undercard): Frank Martin, Tyndale & Altman.
Timekeeper: Tony Stenza.
Announcer: Ed Derian.
(2-28-88)

J.R. JOWETT

▶**PHILADELPHIA**—The Blue Horizon—Nate "Mr." Miller, 191, Phila., topped a card for the first time in his brief career and came away victorious in this scheduled eight when he registered a TKO win at 1:38 of Round Five over Ricardo Spain, 195, Columbus, Ohio. Miller upped his record to 10-0, all but one by KO, and that win came the previous March over this same Ricardo Spain.

Keeping his hands busy, Miller jumped out on top and never faltered as he slowly and methodically chopped his opponent down. Spain could do little but clutch and grab just to stay upright. Occasionally he'd find an opening, but never seemed sufficiently motivated to sustain an attack. When it appeared Spain was prepar-

ing to exit at any time, Miller showed his lack of experience by charging straight in on his wounded prey and thus getting tangled in Ricardo's grip of survival.

Finally, a totally spent Spain was dropped by two clubbing rights and referee Charlie Sgrillo wisely called it finished without even beginning a count.

Andre "Thee" Prophet, 177½, continued unbeaten (now 8-0, five KOs) with an eight-round unanimous decision over fellow Philadelphian William Morris, 184. Prophet had defeated Morris in two out of three amateur bouts and this time the boxing busyness of the 20-year-old proved superior to the physical style of Morris.

A constant tattoo of combinations had Williams at a distinct disadvantage and only his mauling tactics kept him alive; at times disrupting the rhythms of Prophet's boxing abilities. Round Seven was the highlight session of this rather entertaining tussle, dominated by a jarring Prophet right uppercut landed midway in the round.

Scores: Lynn Carter and Joe O'Neil agreed at 38-34 and Al Morris saw it 38-35. *The Ring* had it 39-34. Ref; Ron Aruit. Morris fell to 6-3.

Spunky Mike Brown, 139½, Philadelphia, got a rare but well deserved close unanimous win, outhustling New Yorker Stephan Johnson (now 4-1) over six very active rounds. Johnson, 141, was eight pounds lighter than in his last bout (just 32 days before), and may have found the swarming approach of a man 14 pounds smaller than his earlier foe a bit too much to handle.

Scores: Carter, 28-26, while Morris and O'Neil saw it 28-27, same as *The Ring* card. Ref; Sgrillo

In what should be his first—and last—pro bout, Willie D. Williams, 152, Salisbury, NC, found himself running for cover the entire time before Manuel Opher (only 2-4 going in) 154, Phila., was declared the TKO winner at the 1:23 mark of Round Two when Williams retired himself. Rookie ref Aruit missed a first-round knockdown of a sorry Williams. Scheduled for four.

King Solomon, 127, Trenton, NJ, showed the opposite side in his debut but could only come away with a majority draw against Tony Green (now 2-0-1), 127, Phila. The shifty Solomon started quickly and had the straight up and straight in Green looking foolish. King did fade but looked the close winner on our card as both gave it their tired all in a wild fourth and final round. Scores: Carter 19-17 for Solomon, while O'Neil and Morris had it 18-18. Ref; Sgrillo.

Two Philadelphians opened the evening as Terrence Jacobs, 156½, took a four-round split decision over Tony Blair, 163, It wasn't much to look at as a hesitant Blair idled away much of the clock. Scores: Carter at 19-17 Jacobs, Morris, 20-16, Jacobs, and O'Neil, 19-18 for Blair. Ref; Aruit.

Promoter and matchmaker: J. Russell Peltz.
Timekeeper: J.P. Mena.
Attendance: 950.
(3-15-88)

JACK OBERMAYER

TENNESSEE

▶**MEMPHIS**—Omni-Daisy Theatre—Returning after a year layoff to recuperate from two broken hands, Covington's Chuck Glover won the Mid-South junior welterweight title with a third-round knockout of Birmingham, Alabama's Roosevelt Jones.

Jones, 141, kept Glover, 138, off balance with left jabs in the first two rounds, but Glover landed a short right to the chin in the third that put Jones down. Jones was dropped again by a left-right combination, then floored for good by a straight right as Glover upped his record to 19-2 and the loser slid to 10-3.

"I had my one hand up, and he got around it," said the southpaw Jones. "He's tough, but I shouldn't have let that in."

Memphis welterweight Greg "The Beale Street Hitman" Dickson, 152, stopped Ray Bell, 148, Terre Haute, Indiana, at 2:52 of the first of a scheduled six. Dickson, the Mid-South welterweight titleholder, is 14-1.

Covington's Michael Meux, 172, made his pro debut, stopping Chester Jackson, 169, Osceola, Arkansas, at 2:28 of the second of a scheduled four.

Covington's Rob Williamson, 141, won a unanimous, four-round decision over Semmie Black, 137, Memphis.

Promoter: Tom Harmon & Mid South Boxing, Inc.
Matchmaker: Red Fortner.
Announcer: Sleepy Rutherford.
Judges: Sam Garland, Mark Acheson, Gilbert Beam, James Perkins & Haywood Watts.
Referees: Jim Kidd, Irving Tucker & Sam Garland.
Timekeeper: Rod Cardone.
Physician: Jeff Hoover.
Attendance: 600 (est.).
(3-1-88)

NOTES: Buddy Holderfield of Little Rock, Arkansas, an amateur champion in the 1940s and a promoter and manager since that time, passed away February 27 of cancer.

MICHAEL GLENN

TEXAS

▶**HOUSTON**—Tuning up for his ill-fated meeting with Buddy McGirt, **Frankie Warren** blasted out fellow-Texan Brian Davenport in just 1:16 of a scheduled 10.

Warren weighed 141 to Davenport's 145.

In another scheduled 10, Texas heavyweight **Mike Williams,**, 220, stopped Florida's Leon Dixon, 194, at 2:53 of the second round.

A scheduled eight ended at 59 seconds into Round Seven with Texan Reggie Johnson, 160, winning by TKO over Louisiana's Ron Martin, 161.

Three four-rounders filled out the card.

Jerry Stephens, 148, Louisiana, stopped Frank Gilford, 147, Texas, at 1:10 of Round Four.

Dion Burgess, 258, California, won by unanimous decision over Darryl Rouse, 268, Oklahoma.

Anthony Stephens, 147, Louisiana, stopped Rolando Guerrero, 148, Texas at 2:59 of Round Four.

Promoter: JAB Promotions.
Physician: Paris Bransford.
Referees: Robert Gonzalez & Chris Jordan.
Timekeepers: Ferris & Giffrow.
Judges: Robert Martin, Lee McCowen & Terry Daniels.
(1-6-88)

▶**HOUSTON**—The scheduled 10-round main event was over in a hurry as Ron Collins, 159, stopped Efren Olivo, 158, in just 55 seconds.

Manning Galloway, 154, Columbus, Ohio, went the eight-round distance to capture a unanimous decision over Oscar Pena, 155.

Joe McNeeley, 219, stopped Kenneth Penn, 220, in the first of a scheduled six.

Raymond Chavez, 143, stopped Alphonso Reyes, 142, in the second of another abbreviated six.

Mike Sacchetti, 159, won a four-round unanimous decision over Tyrone McNight, 160.

Promoter: HBA.
Physicians: Bransford & Guerrero
Referees: Barry Yeats & Tom Sechelski.
Timekeepers: Jack Joerns.
Judges: Chuck Bertani, David McCullough & Edwin Horn.
(1-14-88)

▶**FORT WORTH**—Fighting before his hometown fans, **Vincent Releford,** 142, took a unanimous, 10-round decision over Houston veteran **Ronnie Shields.**

Troy Dorsey, 126, won by unanimous decision over David Moreno, 127, in eight rounds.

In another eight decided by unanimous decision, Delio Palacios, 134, Fort Worth, was declared winner over Uriel Martinez, 137.

Roddy Blake, 141, stopped Herbey Limon, 143, in the third of a scheduled six.

Anthony White, 149, stopped Ronnie DeLeon, 149, at 1:30 of Round Two of another scheduled six.

Promoter: Super Pro Events.
Physician: Robert Holston.
Referees: Ronnie Walters & Arlen Bynum.
Timekeepers: Ballou & Ballou.
Judges: James Cole, Dickie Cole & Ken Fewell.
(1-19-88)

Texas heavyweight Mike Williams recorded his second win inside a month by outpointing Art Terry over 10 rounds in Houston.
PHOTO BY MARC MORRISON

▶**HOUSTON**—The scheduled 10-round main event ended at 2:10 of Round Eight with **James Pipps,** 124, Vidor, stopping Oscar Chavarria, 122¼.

Another 10 saw **Mike Williams**, 223, win by unanmious decision over Art Terry, 231.

A scheduled eight ended in the sixth with Mike Phelps, 119, winning by disqualification over Eduardo Martinez, 119.

Matthew Brooks, 176¼, stopped Louis Coleman, 172, at 1:14 of the sixth of a scheduled eight.

Joey Parker, 202½, won a unanimous, eight-round decision over Greg Gorrell, 198.

Chuck Garner, 153¾, stopped Jose Luis Ayala, 152½, at 1:53 of the second of a scheduled six.

Promoter: JAB Promotions.
Physician: Paris Bransford.
Referees: Mark Tessman & Chris Jordan.
Timekeepers: Ferris & Giffrow.
Judges: Edwin Horn, Elias Sanchez & Ronnie Ralston.
(2-3-88)

▶**DALLAS**—Marriott Hotel—Hometown veteran Rogelio Lopez, 132, stopped Darrell "The Black Widow" Savoy, 131½, Carencro, Louisiana, at 1:41 of the third round of the main event.

Savoy was given two standing eight counts in the second round before being knocked out by a left hook in the following session. His record dropped to a reported 20-6 with 13 knockouts. Lopez is 12-8 with nine knockouts.

Sam Jones won by decision over Juan Martinez in an eight-round featherweight bout.

A welterweight six saw Gary Spears decision LeRoy Rivera.

Ruben Munoz knocked out Hosea Williams in the second of another welterweight bout.

Also at 147 pounds, "Two Gun" Williams decisioned Jerry Stephens.

Promoter: Garrett Scanlan, Standing 8, Inc.
Attendance: 1,140. $14,007.50.
(2-10-88)

▶**DALLAS**—Former IBF lightweight titleholder **Harry Arroyo,** 139, stopped Canada's Richard Souce, 139, at 2:59 of the eighth round of a scheduled 12.

Robert Guy, 140, stopped Roberto Martinez, 142, at 2:52 of the third of a scheduled eight.

Dwayne Swift, 133, scored a unanimous, eight-round decision win over Cedric Powell, 133.

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Ford Jennings, 146, won a majority, six-round vote over Isidro Trujano, 145.
Texan Brian Dorsey, 134, stopped Carlos Fuentes, 137, at 1:27 of the second round of a scheduled four.
Promoter: Super Pro Events.
Physician: Holston.
Referees: Arlen Bynum & Steve Crosson.
Timekeepers: Ballou & Ballou.
Judges: Jack Woodruff, James Cole & Jerry McKenzie.
(2-23-88)

▶**HOUSTON**—Texan Sylvester Kennon, 134, won the main event, posting a unanimous, 10-round decision over Idaho's Mike Grow, also 134.
In another scheduled 10, Texan Reginald Johnson, 159, stopped Mexico's Gonzalo Montez, 160, at 2:26 of the fourth.
Mike Phelps, 117, Texas, won by unanimous decision over Ramone Soliz, 118, in eight.
Rickey Stoner, 114, Texas, won by unanimous decision over Ramone Soliz, 118, in eight.
Rickey Stoner, 114, Texas, stopped Mexico's Ariel Perez Conde, 145, at 53 seconds of the sixth and final round.
Louisiana's Anthony Stephens, 142, stopped Bryan Broyles, 142, at the end of the fourth of a scheduled six.
Chuck Garner, 155, Texas, took a unanimous, four-round decision over Jeff Hollins, 205, Texas.
Promoter: JAB Promotions.
Referees: Gonzales & Jordan.
Timekeepers: Tom Ferris & Tom Giffrow.
Matchmaker: Wayne Harrison.
(3-2-88)

▶**SULPHUR SPRINGS**—Three scheduled eight-rounders topped this card, but just one went the distance, Texan C.J. Duffy, 144½, winning by unanimous decision over Gary Spears, 145.
Tony Montgomery, 155, made quick work of Floyd Peavy, 156, stopping him at 58 seconds of the second round.
Louis Howard, 151, stopped Charles Hollis, 156½, at 1:06 of the third round.
Everett Martin, 200½, won a unanimous, six-round decision over Greg Gorrell, 201.
Roberto Trevino, 144¾, stopped Vernon Garrett, 141, at 1:42 of the third round of a scheduled four.
Promoter: Ringside Texas.

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(3-5-88)

VIRGINIA

▶**RICHMOND**—Baltimore's **Vincent Pettway,** 147, stopped Tim Knight, 150, Louisville, Kentucky, in the ninth round of a scheduled 10-round co-main event.
The first 10 had Richmond's Joe Ballard, 225, win by decision over Louisville's John Morton, 210.
William Galliwango, 147, Richmond, stopped Marvin Ladson, 147, Winston-Salem, in the third of a scheduled eight.
Another scheduled eight ended even quicker, Richmond's Reggie Brown, 114, stopping High Point, North Carolina's Juan Rodriguez in the first.
The opening four had Norfolk's Stacy Burrus, 142, win by decision over Louisville's Keith Roberts, 145.
Promoter: Ray Brown.
Referees: Rothenburg & Green.
Judges: LaPrade, Bryan & James.
Timekeepers: Hall & Peters.
Physician: Sprenkle.
(3-4-88)

▶**NORFOLK**—Omni—A six-card show here produced four first-round knockouts.
The main event, a 12-round bout, did go the distance, though. Mike Rouse, 228, Norfolk, winning over Danny Sutton, 220, Spartanburg, South Carolina.
A four-rounder that saw Portsmouth's Carlton West, 190, win over Asheville, North Carolina's Billy Joe Black, 215, also went the route.
The rest of the evening consisted of quick endings, Richmond's William Galliwango, 147, starting things off with a one-round stoppage of Portsmouth's Earl Holman, 147 in a scheduled four.
Norfolk's Stacey Burrus, 139, then polished off Mexico's Carmen Hernandez, 138, in the first of a scheduled four.
Portsmouth's Ken Shannon, 154, then ended his scheduled eight with Mexico's Rafael Cardenas, 158, before the first three minutes had ended.
And, Norfolk's 35-year-old Mel Daniel, 194, stopped Marion, North Carolina's 25-year-old Rickey Jaynes, 205, in one.
Promoter: Powerhouse.
Referees: Rothenberg & Wollesen.
Judges: Traylor, Bryan & Moran.
Timekeepers: Gold & Latham.
Physician: Wong.
(3-13-88)

MEXICO

CHIAPAS

▶**TAPACHULA**—Welterweight Arturo Bautista stopped Francisco Hernandez in the fourth round.
Marcelino Torres won a 10-round decision over Chiapas state flyweight champion Arturo Valencia.
(1-15-88)

CAMPECHE

▶**CARMEN**—Manuel Hernandez Pozo won a split, 10-round decision over Adrian Medina in a featherweight bout.
Bantamweight Enrique "Chamaco" Briceno knocked out Luis Fernando Noh Euan in the second round.
Flyweight Antonio "Tony" Santiago chilled Jose Chuc in three.
(1-29-88)

COAHUILA

▶**TORREON**—Manuel "Gallito" Juarez embalmed Ariel Reyes in the sixth round of a lightweight match.
Jesus "Chuyin" Rojas outscored Jorge "Canon" Hernandez in 10 rounds in another lightweight bout.
Lightweight Guardado destroyed "Rocky" Alonso in two.
Flyweight Francisco "Buzo" Gonzalez demolished Antonio Arciniega in the first.
Lightweight Marvin Contreras won a unanimous, 10-round decision over Salvador Larios.
(1-1-88)

CHIHAUHUA

▶**JUAREZ**—Santos "Apache" Moreno won a unanimous, 10-round decision over Luis "Capulin" Garcia in a lightweight match.
Bantamweight Cesar Soto flattened "Mosco" Lozano in one.
Bantamweight Martin "Birrias" Galvan beat Juan Nunez in 10.
Featherweight Jesus "Secre" Nunez stopped Gerardo Castillo in nine.
Bantamweight Simon "Coloradito" Gonzalez knocked out Baldo Lopez in two.
(1-15-88)

GUERRERO

▶**ACAPULCO**—Welterweight Juan Hernandez stopped Luis Francisco Perez in the fourth round.
Featherweight Alfonso Suastegui stopped Eduardo Perez in three.
Jose Luis Bueno halted Antonio Infante in the first round of a flyweight match.
Bantamweight Roque Castillo and Max Garcia drew over six rounds.
(12-18-87)
▶**ACAPULCO**—Ciro Cayetano stopped Francisco Rosas in the seventh round of a bantamweight contest.
(1-22-88)

JALISCO

▶**GUADALAJARA**—Gonzalo Villalobos won over Sergio Cornejo in a 10-round flyweight match.
(11-27-87)

MEXICO CITY (FEDERAL DISTRICT)

▶**MEXICO CITY**—Arena Naucalpan — Veteran bantamweight Diego Avila won a 10-round decision over Victor Manuel Rabanales.
(1-23-88)
▶**MEXICO CITY**—Arena Naucalpan — Featherweight Mario Alberto Rodriquez stopped Pedro Mendoza in the third round.
Armando "Jaiba" Salazar stopped Francisco Villagomez in the fifth round of a bantamweight bout.
Lightweight Guillermo Cruz stopped Arturo Cardenas in one.
Cuauhtemoc Sanchez knocked out Mario Garcia in two rounds of a featherweight contest.
(1-30-88)

NORTH BAJA CALIFORNIA

▶**TIJUANA**—Rafael "Gato" Morfin stopped Narciso "Chicho" Valenzuela in eight rounds to capture the Mexican featherweight crown.
Alejandro "Chachalaco" Mayorga decisioned Ramiro "Aguilita" Rodriguez in a 10-round lightweight bout.
(11-30-87)
▶**MEXICALI**—Bruno Rabanales and former Mexican featherweight champion Javier "Changa" Marquez drew over 10 rounds, but several days later the decision was revoked and Marquez was declared the winner.
(1-1-88)
▶**TIJUANA**—Hard-hitting **Roger Arevalo** stopped Mauro "Betillo II" Gutierrez in eight rounds to regain the Mexican junior lightweight title, which was vacant.
Ramon Verdusgo won a unanimous decision over "Escorpion" Segura in a 10-round lightweight match.
Rigoberto "Halcon" Lopez knocked out Genaro Rendon in the first of a welterweight match.
(1-25-88)

NUEVO LEON

▶**MONTERREY**—Ernesto Lopez chilled Jose Antonio Cazares in the first of a featherweight bout.
(12-5-87)
▶**MONTERREY**—Ramon "Chino" Cardenas knocked out Alberto Cortez in the third round of a lightweight

match.
Bantamweight Sergio "Popeye" Cornejo flattened Facundo Lopez in three.
(12-25-87)

▶**MONTERREY**—Featherweight Leobardo Mancillas won a 10-round decision over German Vasquez.
Lightweight Angel "Zorrito" Aldama chilled Adrian Lopez in one.
(1-1-88)

▶**MONTERREY**—Eduardo Jacques destroyed Ernesto Lopez in five rounds, lightweights.
(1-8-88)

PUEBLA

▶**PUEBLA CITY**—Flyweight Gonzalo Villalobos stopped Francisco "Buzo" Gonzalez in one.
Jorge Garcia stopped Hector Herrera in the third of a bantamweight contest.
Lightweight Bardo Arguelles stopped Jose Flores in five.
Lightweight Jose Bernal knocked out Cuauhtemoc Perez in two.
Flyweight Jose Luis Bueno TKO'd Luis Atlatenco in two.
(1-15-88)

SINALOA

▶**GUASAVE**—Jose Felix Montiel won a 10-round decision over Antonio "Gato" Flores in a bantamweight bout.
(12-5-87)

▶**LOS MOCHIS**—Jose Felix Montiel won a unanimous decision over veteran Rafael "Raton" Alonso in a 10-round bantamweight match.
Santos Llanes knocked out Francisco Javier Cota in two rounds of a featherweight contest.
(12-27-87)

▶**GUASAVE**—Bantamweight Pepillo Valdez chilled Miguel Angel "Pulga" Cota in two.
(1-29-88)

SONORA

▶**HUATABAMPO**—Former Mexican lightweight champion Sergio "Chocolate" Zambrano knocked out Jaime Martinez in three rounds.
(1-29-88)

SOUTH BAJA CALIFORNIA

▶**LA PAZ**—Rodolfo Batta halted Raul Lopez in eight rounds to retain his Mexican junior welterweight championship.
(1-22-88)

▶**LA PAZ**—Francisco "Chango" Carballo defended his Mexican middleweight championship for the eighth time, winning a unanimous, 12-round decision over Alex de Leon.
(1-29-88)

TAMAULIPAS

▶**REYNOSA**—Homero Guel won from Gerardo "Gatito" Gonzalez in a 10-round flyweight matchup.
(12-18-87)

VERACRUZ

▶**MINATITLAN**—Mexican super flyweight champion Elid "Jimmy" Fernandez knocked out Noel Herrera in nine rounds of a non-title bout.
(11-28-87)

▶**POZA RICA**—Justo Zuniga halted Humberto "Chamaco" Perez in the fourth round of a bantamweight bout.
Featherweight Javier "Zorrito" Altamariano stopped Eduardo Rojas in four.
Bantamweight Castulo Cruz chilled Onesimo Landa in one.
(1-22-88)

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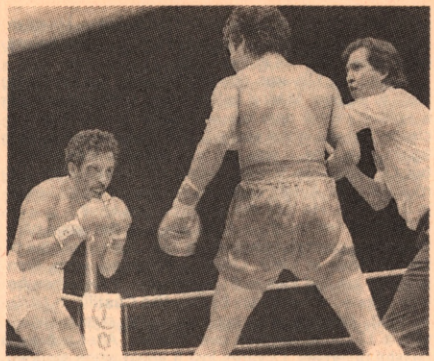
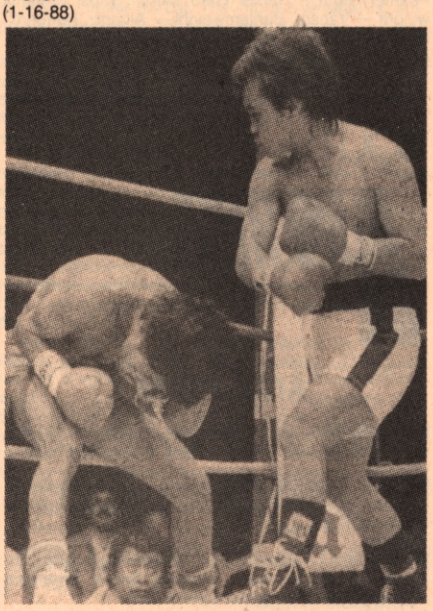


Jorge Cano, seen bleeding from a cut over his right eye, won a controversial disqualification over Rodolpho Alvarado in Merida. The referee is Jesus Manuel Erosa.

YUCATAN

▶**MERIDA**—Former Mexican junior flyweight champion **Jorge Cano** won a controversial disqualification over Rodolfo Alvarado in three rounds.
Felipe "Hurricane" Gutierrez stopped Silverio "Chamaco" Ortiz Jr. in three rounds of a featherweight go.
Promising bantamweight Jose Juan Xool won an eight-round decision over Luis Enrique Caceres.
Flyweights Juan "Panterita" Gonzalez and Tilo Duran drew over six.
Featherweight Moises Chi stopped Jose Alfredo Chi in one.
(1-16-88)



Hard-hitting Oscar Gallegos flattens Tony Solis in the second round to record his seventh straight kayo in as many pro starts.

▶**MERIDA**—Flyweight Armando "Tontin" Velazco stopped Fernando "Candelita II" Varguez in two rounds.
Santiago Mendez won a unanimous decision over Justo Zuniga in a 10-round flyweight bout.
Hard-hitting lightweight Oscar Gallegos knocked out Tony Solis in two.
Oscar's brother, flyweight Alcibiades Gallegos took a six-round decision over Miguel Uitz.
Flyweight David Zapata demolished Miguel Chi in one.
(1-30-88)

▶**MEXICO CITY**—After more than two years of inactivity, **Ruben Olivares** announced his return to boxing, but he didn't stay long.
Olivares was knocked out in the fourth round of a

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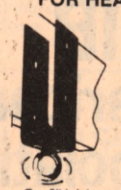

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scheduled 10-round lightweight fight by fellow-Mexican Ignacio Madris. Olivares was down three times before going down and out in the fourth.

A right put Olivares down in the first, but he came back to stagger Madrid before being shaken again by a right uppercut near the end of the round. The two clashed heads in the second, and Olivares went down again. This time, it was not counted as a knockdown, but Olivares was floored twice for counts before the round ended. A right uppercut put him down for keeps in the fourth. He took the count on one knee.

Olivares first fought in 1964 and won the world bantamweight championship with a five-round knockout of **Lionel Rose** in 1969. Olivares defended twice, then suffered his first loss in 61 fights (one draw) when he was stopped in 14 rounds by **Chucho Castillo** in 1970. In 1971, Olivares won back his world championship with a 15-round decision over Castillo. After two successful defenses, Olivares lost it again when stopped in eight rounds by **Rafael Herrera** in 1972. In 1974, Olivares won the vacant WBA featherweight title with a seven-round knockout of Zensuke Utagawa, but lost it in his first defense when stopped in 13 rounds by **Alexis Arguello.** In 1975, Olivares won the WBC featherweight title, stopping **Bobby Chacon** in two. It slipped away in his first defense, a 15-round loss on points to **David Kotey.** In 1979, Olivares challenged for the WBA featherweight title but was stopped in 12 by **Eusebio Pedroza.** He was inactive from 1982 to 1985, but returned in 1986 to win a four-round decision. He then retired again with a record of 87-12-3 with 77 knockouts. He is 41.
(3-12-88)

▶**NOTES:** The current Mexican champions are: Heavyweight — Mauricio Villegas; Light heavyweight — Juan "Idi Amin" Hernandez; Middleweight — Francisco "Chango" Carballo; Welterweight — Vacant; Super lightweight — Rodolfo Batta; Lightweight — Juan Soberanes; Super featherweight — Roger Arevalo; Featherweight — Rafael "Gato" Morfin; Super bantamweight — Vacant; Bantamweight — Alberto "Hungaro" Martinez; Super flyweights — Armando Castro; Flyweights — Wilebrado "Willy" Salazar; Mini flyweight — Humberto "Chiquita" Gonzalez.

EDUARDO AMER

SOUTH AMERICA

ARGENTINA

▶**GRANDSEN**—Uruguayan heavyweight Rodrigo Benech knocked out Antonio Galvan in the first round.
(1-8-88)

▶**VILLA CARLOS PAZ**—Young light heavyweight prospect Marcelo Figueroa halted Eduardo Antonio Carranza in six.
(1-8-88)

▶**TARTAGAL**—Welterweight **Hector Hugo Vilte** continued his winning ways, stopping former Argentine champion Luis Fernandez Soto in four.
(1-15-88)

▶**CALETA OLIVIA**—Middleweight Jorge Fernando Castro won by disqualification over veteran Hugo Patorzu Luero in eight.
(1-15-88)

▶**LA CARLOTA**—Juan Guevedo outpointed Juan Cevallos in 12 rounds to win the vacant province of Cordoba middleweight title.
(1-22-88)

▶**SAN ANTONIO DESTE**—Daniel Domonguez halted Robinson Zamora in the 10th round of a middleweight bout.
(1-22-88)

▶**SALIA**—Argentine junior bantamweight champion Ruben Condori knocked out Oscar Vergara in three.

Manuel Billalba stopped Chile's Pedro Miranda in two, featherweights.
(1-23-88)

▶**MONTE HERMOSO**—Argentine and South American flyweight champion **Adrian Roman** knocked out Domingo Aragon in two.
(1-30-88)

▶**TUNUYAN**—After more than six years of inactivity, former world middleweight champion **Hugo Corro** returned to action at age 34 and scored a four-round knockout over another veteran, Juan Carlos Ladesma.

The match was slow, with Corro, who outweighed his opponent 174-168, attacking and ruling the whole way. Only in the second, when he scored a hard right to the face of Corro, did Ladesma do well offensively.

In the fourth, a strong left hook by Corro put Ladesma to sleep.

Corro, who upped his record to 49-4-1 with 26 KOs, is looking for a shot at Argentine and South American titleholder Jorge "Violin" Salgado after a couple of bouts against rated boxers such as Sergio Merani or Mario Melo. Ladesma's record dropped to 25-8-10.

On the undercard, Corro's younger brother, Osvaldo, outpointed Juan Jose Lezcano in an eight-round lightweight bout. Osvaldo, unbeaten in nine fights, appears to be a very good prospect.
(2-4-88)

▶**SANTA FE**—Rising welterweight Julio Cesar Vasquez TKO'd former Argentine champion Simon Escobar in five.
(2-4-88)

▶**SAN RAFAEL**—Argentine and South American junior welterweight champion Hugo Pajarito Hernandez knocked out Jorge Tejeda in the second round. The performance by Hernandez was superb.
(2-5-88)

▶**RECONQUISTA**—Active middleweight Daniel Dominguez, managed by Tito Lectoure, outpointed Luis Marquez in 10.
(2-5-88)

▶**ALIA GRACIA**—Argentine lightweight champion Alberto Mercedes Cortes retained his Latin American title by knocking out Jorge Gonzalez in the fourth. Cortes is 32-0 with 18 KOs.
(2-13-88)

RICARDO F. SOLANA

BRAZIL

▶**JANDIRA/SAO PAULO**—Waldevino Monteiro outpointed Carlos Mayorca of Argentina in a 10-round featherweight match.
(2-5-88)

▶**SAO PAULO—Francisco Tomas da Cruz,** Brazilian junior lightweight champion, won easily, knocking out Argentinian Fidel Avila in the second round.
(2-6-88)

▶**SALVADOR/BAHIA**—Luiz Carlos Dorea, undefeated Brazilian champion, took a 12-round decision over Tony Jones to become the WBC international junior welterweight titleholder.

Dorea won unanimously before 11,000, the referee being **Arthur Mercante** of the United States, with Argentinians Jorge Molina, Daniel Gomez and Carlos Guzman doing the scoring.

In the semifinal, Clarimundo Silva took a split, 10-round decision over previously unbeaten Reginaldo Santos to keep his Brazilian light heavyweight championship.
(2-26-88)

KALED CURI

COLOMBIA

▶**CARTAGENA**—Cartagena de Indias Bull Ring — **Luis "Chicanero" Mendoza,** San Onofre, Sucre Department, TKO'd **Miguel Maturana** of Cartagena when Maturana failed to answer the bell for the fourth round.

Maturana was knocked down in the third round when Mendoza connected with a left hook to the jaw of the local bantamweight. Maturana, who has had alleged problems with drugs, said, "I was not prepared for the fight," and the press has called for the cancellation of his license.

Mendoza scored the 11th KO in his 19-1 record.

In another bantamweight contest, Juan Polo Perez and Eudo Bermudez drew over 10 rounds.

Unbeaten middleweight from Cartagena, Adolfo Caballero, knocked out Jesus Morelos of Cali in the second round.

Lightweight Wilson Fontalvo, San Estanislao, stopped Enrique Martinez, Buenaventura, in four rounds.

Monteria welterweight William Ruiz Jr. stopped Buenaventura's Blicerio Velasco in the fourth.

In a bantamweight four-rounder Roberto Godoy decisioned Tobias Carabello.

Promoters: Arrieta & Gomez.
(2-26-88)

▶**BOGOTA**—El Salitre Coliseum—Monteria's Pedro Barrera won the vacant Colombian featherweight title with a 12-round, split decision victory over Alejandro Galvis.

The vacant Colombian strawweight title went to Monteria's Eugemio Oviedo, who flattened Cartagena's Arnold Velasquez in just 2:59.

Monteria welterweight William Ruiz knocked out Cartagena's Cristobal Torres in the sixth and final round.

Monteria's Hernando Pena won in the second round when Cartagena's Edwin Alvarez abandoned the match.

Attendance: 2,000 (est.).
(3-4-88)

▶**BARRANQUILLA**—La Cueva Del Pulpo—Juan Rodriguez, Pivijay, Magdalena Department, won a unanimous, eight-round decision over Cartagena's Alfredo Gomez in a bantamweight bout.

Three-time Colombian amateur champion Julio Coronall of Polonuevo, Atlantico Department, made his pro debut a quick one, stopping Buenaventura's Orlando Hurtado in the first round. Hurtado was knocked down by a right and referee Alberto Ferreira stopped the flyweight match at 2:45.

Local welterweight Manuel Salas made his debut with a unanimous, four-round decision over Medellin's Abel Alarcon.

Rafael Zuniga knocked out Alfonso De Leon in the third round of a match between Cartagenan featherweights.

Flyweight Alvaro Mercado, Barranquilla, knocked out Alfredo Cardales in the second round.

Promoter: Joaquin Cuesta.

Referees: Luis Estrada & Alberto Ferreira.

Attendance: 400.
(3-4-88)

▶**SANTA MARTA**—Villa Olimpica Simon Bolivar — Agustin "Baby" Garcia stopped Cartagena's Bernardo Ceballos when Ceballos did not respond for the third round of their flyweight bout.

Lightweight Ismael Pineda won a 10-round decision over Fernando Rios.

Welterweight Diosmel Anaya outpointed Claudio Cassini over eight.

Rodolfo Blanco stopped Jose Iriarte in the second round, flyweights.

Libardo Barrios won a six-round, welterweight decision over Emiro Olivaros.

Promoter: Rafael Padilla.
(3-4-88)

LUIS A. GONZALEZ V.

GUYANA

▶**GEORGETOWN**—National Sports Hall—Guyana's former junior middleweight champion Wayne Harris redeemed himself in the eyes of local fans when he pounded out a unanimous decision over Ray Alberts in 10 rounds.

The scores read 97-94, 98-92 and 97-96. *The Ring* gave Harris seven of the 10 rounds.

This Valentine's Day bout certainly was no love affair as both slugged each other without mercy the entire distance. Harris, whose last showing here resulted in a points loss to Venezuelan Luis Garcia in November, entered the ring amidst loud boos from the estimated crowd of 1,500. But he soon had them cheering for him as he showed tremendous heart and fitness in overcoming a 13-pound weight disadvantage—Alberts weighed 167 to Harris' 154—to match Alberts punch for punch.

From the opening bell, the two went at it hammer-and-tong, with Alberts getting an edge only in Round Four. But Alberts hurt Harris repeatedly with right uppercuts in Round Seven and a surprise left hook dropped Harris in the eighth. But Harris made a remarkable comeback in the final two rounds, engaging with Alberts in exchanges that had the crowd on its feet.

The win improved Harris' record to 11-2, the other loss coming to Len Blackmore in June, 1986, for Harris' junior middle title. Alberts fell to 6-4.

Reynold McBean, 125, won a unanimous, 10-round decision over Wayne Briggs, 126, in a lackluster bout that improved McBean's record to 4-5 and dropped Briggs to 5-4.

Eustace Wallace Stuart, 135, was no match for Lancelot Cyrus, 135. Stuart was warned at least four times for persistent holding until he was finally disqualified in the third round. Cyrus is 3-7-2, Stuart, 4-4.

Malcolm Darson, 116, and Wayne Coates, 118, provided another fight of the night as Coates emerged with a split, six-round decision. However, the crowd protested the call and the cards were rechecked, revealing that the outcome was actually a draw, Coates taking one vote, 59-56, Darson getting one, 59-55, with the third card reading 57-57. Darson is 0-6-2, Coates, 1-8-2.

Winston Goodridge, 118, used his five-pound advantage and superior ring craft to good advantage, scoring a unanimous, six-round win over Keith Anthony. Goodridge is 3-7, Anthony, 0-2.

Promoter: Ringside Promotions.

Physicians: Royston Anderson & H.C. Hugh.

Timekeeper: John Quail.

Referees: Duncan, Green, Adams, Jardine & Fernandes.

Judges: Green, Busby, Jardine, Thorne, Duncan & Fernandes.
(2-14-88)

▶**GEORGETOWN**—National Sports Hall — Local lightweight Mike Benjamin needed just 2:35 to demolish Angus Alleyne, the top lightweight from Barbados, in the scheduled 10-round main event.

Alleyne, who weighed 133, started aggressively, hoping to take advantage of Benjamin's supposed weakened state after the local sweated off seven pounds at the weigh-in, dropping from 139 to 132 in just one hour. But Benjamin met Alleyne's onslaught with his usual bruising aggressiveness and soon had Alleyne on the canvas courtesy of a looping right cross to the head that opened a long gash over his left eye.

The Barbadian managed to beat the count and made a game effort to stave off Benjamin's relentless, two-fisted attack, but soon found himself on wobbly legs from some hard shots to both the head and body that prompted referee Elion Jardine to step in and halt the proceedings.

Alleyne, whose record dropped to 11-8, needed 10 stitches to repair his cut. The impressive showing improved Benjamin to 12-1 with eight KOs.

Gordon Carew and Fitzroy Davidson, both 130, had a war in a 10 that was close right to the final bell. Carew upped his record to 5-3, winning a most unpopular split decision, two judges giving him the match, 96-95, while the third had Davidson, who fell to 9-12, ahead by the same score.

Lalta Narine, 116, again was involved in the night's best fight, surviving a near-knockout in Round Three to come back and stop Ray Jones, 110, in the sixth of a scheduled eight. Narine brought the crowd to its feet, taking control from the fourth round on to up his mark to 8-3 while Jones slipped to 3-3. During Round Six a straight right by Narine left Jones sprawled on the floor. He barely beat the count, but was chased all over the ring upon rising until referee Frank Fernandes stopped the race at 2:55.

Joseph Murray, 118, went the distance for the first time in five bouts when Malcolm Hawker, 115, gave him his toughest encounter yet in a thrilling bantamweight six. Hawker's southpaw style and improved conditioning had Murray at sea for awhile, but he soon found his measure and took control to gain a unanimous decision, the scores reading 59-55, 59-56 and 58-56. Murray is 5-0 with four knockouts, Hawker is 1-5.

Promoter: People's Syndicate Promotions.

Physicians: Royston Anderson & H.C. Hugh.

Referees: Duncan, Fernandes, Adams & Jardine.

Judges: Green, Jardine, Busby, Thorne, Duncan & Fernandes.
(2-28-88)

WILL R. BOODHOO

PARAGUAY

▶**ASUNCION**—South American middleweight champion Juan Carlos Giminez outpointed Dominican Jorge Amparo in 12 to win the WBC international title.

Former Brazilian middleweight champion Carlos Antunes ended his retirement, returning as a light heavyweight to outpoint Argentine veteran Angel Caro in 10.

Reinaldo Giminez, the younger, Argentina-born brother of Juan Carlos, knocked out Manuel Zapata in the opening session of a heavyweight match.

Brazilian featherweight champion Sidnei Dal Rovere outpointed Argentine bantamweight Luis Ocampo over 10.
(1-23-88)

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URUGUAY

▶**MONTEVIDEO**—Light heavyweight Rodrigo Benech stopped Argentine Anibal Romero in four. (1-28-88)

▶**PAYSANDU**—Light heavyweight Juan Alberto Barrero outpointed Argentina's Alfredo Ubelar in 10.

Barrero will face Rodrigo Benech for the vacant Uruguayan light heavyweight title in the near future. (2-5-88)

RICARDO F. SOLANA

EUROPE

DENMARK

▶**ELSINORE**—Joey Olivo, 112, took an eight-round decision over Eyub Can, 113.

Racheed Lawal, 130, knocked out Nedric Simmons, 130, in two.

Lars Lunf Jensen, 129½, decisioned Joe Donahue, 132½, over six.

Roland Ericsson, 170, decisioned Russell Barker, 162½, over six.

Michael Madsen, 175½, won a six-round decision over Sean Stringfellow, 174½. (2-13-88)

FINLAND

▶**LAUKAA**—UKK Halli—Finland's **Tarmo Uusivirta** won a scheduled 10 when England's Tony Burke retired in his corner after the seventh round.

Burke had been down in the fifth round of the light heavyweight bout.

Sweden-based Yugoslavian Mille Markovic stopped Northern Ireland's Peppy Muire in the first round of a welterweight bout.

Finnish welterweight Tom Heiskanen knocked out Verol Liverpool, Trinidad via England, in the second.

Swedish light heavyweight Roland Eriksson decisioned England's Derek Myers. (2-7-88)

PETRI PAIMANDER

FRANCE

▶**FREJUS**—Jean Louis Marco Pena decisioned Rachid Bakir in a middleweight six.

Jean Michel Forestier stopped Jean Luc Cornu in six of a welterweight bout. (2-5-88)

▶**CHANTILLY**—Mustapha Chouguiat decisioned Xavier De La Fontaine in a six-round welterweight match.

Jean Claude Dele decisioned Stephane Zaffirof in a six-round middleweight contest. (2-6-88)

▶**ONNAING**—Featherweight Philippe Parmentier decisioned Hocine Hassani over six. (2-6-88)

▶**STRASBOURG**—Lightweight Jamel Kanache stopped Nordine Azeroual in five. (2-6-88)

▶**SAINT DENIS**—Featherweight Kamel Djadda decisioned Raymond Gevva over 10. (2-12-88)

▶**SAINT QUENTIN**—Welterweight Alain Cuvillier won a 10-round decision over Daniel Bicchierai.

Jean Paul Roux stopped Cherif Boubiekeur in nine of a middleweight match. (2-13-88)

▶**SAINT NAZAIRE**—Welterweight Pascal Lorcy stopped Nordine Dahmani on cuts in the sixth round. (2-13-88)

▶**PARIS**—Middleweight Andre Mongelema decisioned Jose Rosemain in 10.

Jean Claude Fontana won an eight-round middleweight decision over Sammy Sampson.

Lightweight Joel Dulys decisioned Mohammed Ounes over eight. (2-13-88)

▶**AULNAY SOUS BOIS**—Middleweight Pascal Leplat decisioned Ali Hassen Fakih in six.

Middleweight Noel Camara won by foul in five over Klayina Awuitoh.

Welterweight Lofti Belkhir knocked out Jean Noel Terranova in two. (2-20-88)

▶**LE HAVRE**—Middleweight Rachid Bakir won a six-round nod over Pascal Marais. (2-27-88)

▶**PERPIGNAN**—Light heavyweight Eric Nicoletta decisioned Norbert Ekassi over six.

Lightweight Salah Ezzantar decisioned Laroussi Trabelsi in six.

Hassen Mehdbi decisioned Yvon Tatula over eight, welterweights. (2-28-88)

▶**BONDOUFLE**—Welterweight Jean Pierre Calvas won a six-round decision over Rene Pate. (2-29-88)

▶**TOURS**—Mohamed Ouhmad stopped Xavier De La Fontaine in the first round of a welterweight bout.

Jean Marie Mauny stopped Jose Bastient in the third of a middleweight contest. (2-29-88)

▶**LA SEYNE SUR MER**—Featherweight Raymond Armand stopped Sammy Ruiz in six rounds.

Martin Camara decisioned Victor Ansoula over eight in a middleweight bout. (2-29-88)

▶**VITRY LE FRANCOIS**—Jean Chanet stopped Maurice Gomis in the second round in a bout for the French heavyweight championship. (3-4-88)

▶**VILLEURBANNE**—Middleweight Mbayo Wa Mbayo decisioned Ian Chantler over eight.

Chantler had Mbayo in trouble in the third round, but was hampered by repeated cautions from the referee.

Lightweight David Thio knocked out Chubby Martin in four. A body shot did the trick.

Middleweight Karim Medjani won in the fifth round when Jean Pierre Mariani was cut and unable to go on. (3-4-88)

▶**SAINT OUEN**—Daniel Londas won by foul in the fifth round over Brian Roche in a lightweight bout.

Roche was tossed for butting after receiving two previous warnings for holding. Roche, who did little the entire bout, was first warned for using his head in Round Three. By the end of the round, he had been warned for holding. In the next round, he was warned again for holding and wrestling Londas. In the fifth, he butted Londas as he held him, and that was that.

Light heavyweight Lumbala Tshibamba stopped Jean Marc Dindin in two.

Middleweights Jose Rosemain and Miodgrad Perunovic drew in eight.

Welterweight Lofti Belkhir stopped Lexter Boucaud in six. (3-11-88)

▶**COMPIEGNE**—Farid Benredjeb won a 10-round decision over Kamel Djadda for the featherweight championship of France. (3-12-88)

▶**MONTBRISON**—Middleweight Chris Tiozzo knocked out Lexter Yarbrough in seven rounds.

Lightweight David Thio stopped Roland Leclercq on cuts in three.

Middleweight Abdel Khalid won a six-round decision over Chaco Ilunga. (3-12-88)

READ THE RING

GERMANY

▶**BERLIN**—At the end of the eight-round heavyweight affair between 24-year-old German Ralf Rocchigiani and local-based Turk Agamili Yilderim, all officials had carded a draw.

Every round was three minutes of unadulterated savagery, and the fight provided a breath of fresh air which gave back to boxing some of the respect and popularity it had once held in this country. It was as close as a banana is to its skin, but unfortunately the large Turkish contingent of the capacity crowd of 750 thought its man had been short-changed. Those fans chanted obscenities and stormed the ring apron, a dozen or so climbing through the ropes.

The situation was extremely dangerous, but Yilderim, showing irreproachable sportsmanship, kept his cool and pleaded with his angry countrymen to calm down and clear the ring, which they did. Fortunately, the hostile crowd left the venue's furniture pretty much as it had found it.

Yilderim had been inactive for 18 months, and the bout appeared a good thing for Rocchigiani. But the most seasoned observers who have rubbed shoulders with the Turk since he turned pro in 1977 were extremely skeptical and felt Rocchigiani could have chosen a less-dangerous opponent at this crucial stage of his career. Rocchigiani is the German cruiserweight champion, is included in most ratings, and lost by one vote a shot at Britain's European cruiserweight champion, Sammy Reeson.

There were no knockdowns, no dramatic shifting tides of battle, just a good, honest pro fight of high quality that proved fascinating to watch. Action throughout was tremendous, with both attempting to take charge. Neither could, but each stayed in close, banging away with combinations to the head and body. Neither gave any noticeable ground and at the end victory could have gone either way.

The German has now won 21 and drawn five of his 28 bouts, while Yilderim, based in Berlin for 18 years, has won 17 and drawn four of 30 starts.

The co-feature was a German heavyweight affair scheduled for six. But the massacre lasted just two as Kalle Heistermann won his fifth, KO'ing Herbert Wegner with a right to the jaw. Heistermann is one of the most promising prospects in Germany today. He joined an amateur club at the age of 15, and between 1981 and 1984 represented his country on 15 occasions, participating in the 1982 European championships and the 1983 world championships. His 65-bout amateur career was ended by an injury, and it was two years before Heistermann decided to join the pro ranks.

The card opener was a welterweight bout between 18-year-old Silvio Mieckley, who was making his pro debut after a 40-bout amateur career, and 31-year-old Al Cinar, a Cologne-based Turk. In Round Three, Cinar walked to his corner and retired, giving the East German a TKO.

Andreas Schweiger, a 22-year-old light heavyweight, beat Francois Saffran, the towel of surrender coming during Round Four.

At middleweight, German Mike Wissenbach generally dictated the course of his fight with 31-year-old Slavic import Sinisa Popovic, winning the six-rounder on points.

Welterweight Aytekin Urkal, a Turk based in Berlin having his second bout, decisioned 30-year-old Charles Ssali, a Ugandan who learned his trade in Italy, over four rounds.

Welterweight Bozon Haule, who represented his country of Tanzania as an amateur, stopped 23-year-old Berlin-based Turk Senturk Ozdemir in five rounds.

Overall, the show provided good, competitive quality boxing at affordable prices.

Promoter: Berlin Boxing Team.
Matchmaker: Olaf Schroder.
Attendance: 750.
(2-19-88)

▶**KARLSRUHE**—Europa Hall—Over two years ago 34-year-old German **Rene Weller** lost his European lightweight crown on a controversial cut stoppage to Dane **Gert Bo Jacobsen.**

The German never forgot the solitary blemish on his 45-bout record and was set for revenge only to be shocked by the news that Jacobsen was withdrawing after suffering a back injury in training. The EBU acted swiftly, stripping Jacobsen of his crown and declaring the title vacant. French champion Jose Maillot was nominated to face Weller for the vacant title.

What would have been a routine chore years ago for Weller resulted in a night of hard labor as he had to go the 12-round distance to take the decision. Weller's victory was no surprise, but the fans were somewhat stunned by the Frenchman's courage and character.

Most rounds were one-way traffic with Weller doing most of the forcing and landing. Being generous to Maillot, one could have carded the first and ninth rounds even, but the remainder were clearly in favor of the German. In the seventh and 10th, rights to the jaw and right uppercuts had the Frenchman in trouble, but Weller could not put him down. Maillot was certainly no sacrificial lamb and what he lacked in skill he made up for with courage.

Weller, certainly on the slide, was still ultimately too seasoned, too smart and too strong for the visitor, who did his best and proved a worthy candidate for the vacant title.

Maillot took his loss with good grace and said after that those who told him Weller was "over the hill" and ready for talking should get lost.

Weller, greeted heartily by the 3,000 partisan fans, was expected to announce his retirement after, and he surely would have done so had his opponent been Jacobsen and not Maillot. Now, he may still feel not completely satisfied with winning back his crown and may like to make just one more appearance — a defense against Jacobsen. Weller has proven Germany's most successful boxer since WWII, losing just 21 of 335 amateur bouts and being named Germany's "Boxer of the Year" on five occasions.

The 31-year-old Maillot, from Saint Denis, has a record of 21-10-1.

For Karlsruhe, population 253,500, the show was just the second ever and the first since November 8, 1958.

The card opener was a very energetic four-rounder featuring German heavyweights, with Hans Gimborn outscoring Volker Schoof, who was making his pro debut. Gimborn has lost eight of 16 starts.

Tanzania welterweight Bozon Haule brought his score to six wins without a loss, stopping German champion Konny Mittermeier in the third. German referee Sigi Hahn called in the ring doctor to inspect the German's cut right eyebrow, and the bout was halted, dropping Mittermeier's record to 7-5.

Erwin Heiber, 31-year-old German light middleweight champ, knocked out his tattooed Yugoslav opponent, Mirsad Mahmutovic, in Round Two. The outclassed Mahmutovic was decked for eight in the opening frame and was finally counted out on his feet by referee Norbert Krosch with 2:25 gone in Round Two. Heiber, who lost a split decision to European welterweight champ Mauro Martelli last year, has lost just four of 34 starts. Mahmutovic suffered his ninth loss in 20 outings.

Zambian heavyweight Mike Simuwelu, with ace British trainer George Francis in his corner, knocked out Oklahoman Lorenzo Boyd in the third round. Boyd, stopped in two rounds by **Mike Tyson** in 1986, was dropped three times in the third, failing to beat the count of referee Kurt Stroer on the final knockdown.

Light heavyweight Rainer Aydt, making his pro debut, outscored local-based Turk Miralay Zorlu in a four-rounder.

Promoter: Danny Bugert.
Matchmaker: Jean Marcel Nartz.
EBU officials: Emilio Loew, Larry O'Connell & Helmuth Kindlymann.
Referees: Hahn, Stroer & Krosch.
Timekeepers: Edgar Satura & Otto Hesse.
Physicians: Bruno Holik & Walter Wagner.
(3-5-88)

JACK TREE

ITALY

▶**PARMA**—Samuel Isiko, 141, won a six-round decision over Bruno Vottero, 141.
(1-10-88)

▶**GROSSETO**—Nicola Parrino, 144¾, decisioned Abderrahim Laachira, 147½, over six.

Umberto Guerrini won by decision over Salim Hamdouche in a six-round featherweight bout.
(2-12-88)

▶**AZZANO LOMBARDO**—Light heavyweight Mwehu Beya stopped Alfredo Cacciatori in the sixth round.

Heavyweight Angelo Rottoli stopped Mbuyamba Kalombo in six.

Featherweight Alain Leon Bamba decisioned Paziente Addobati over six.

Featherweight Vincenzo Limatola stopped Louis Machuca in two.

Heavyweight Antonio Manfredini won by foul in three rounds over Ndomingiedi Lusikina.
(2-13-88)

▶**CARBONIA**—Roberto Franceschi, 135, won a cut stoppage in the second round over Andres Blanco, 136.

Angelo Sassu, 131½, stopped Saturnin Cabanas, 133, in two.
(2-13-88)

▶**BOSCO TRE CASE**—Lightweight Efrem Calamati won by foul over Alain Leon Bamba in three.

Welterweight Bruno Vottero stopped Pasquale Campa in two on cuts.

Welterweight Renato Biagio Zurlo decisioned Inino Tonino Wa Bolamba over eight.

Welterweight Stefano Del Tufo won a four-round decision over Salazadio Nzalakanda.
(2-28-88)

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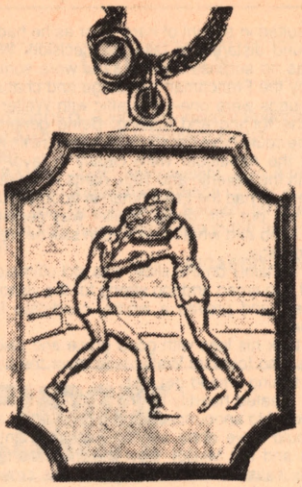

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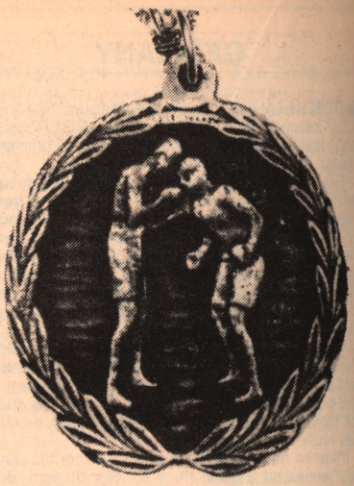

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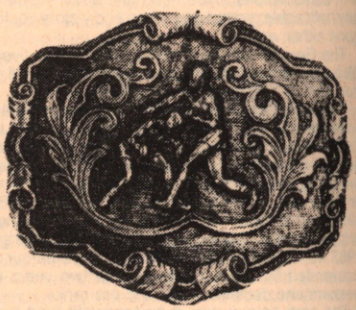

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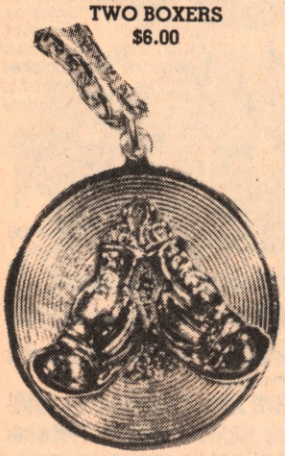

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SEND MONEY ORDERS ONLY.

▶**LA SPEZIA**—Roberto Manoni, 161, knocked out Wahid Louihak, 158, in three.
(3-4-88)
▶**PALERMO**—Giuseppe Leto, 153¼, won by foul in the eight round over Calisto Bavaresco, 153¼, in a bout for the Italian junior middleweight title.
Welterweight Lorenzo Giappone decisioned Ayeri Taheb over six.
Lightweight Claudio Nitti decisioned Faical Naifer over eight.
Welterweight Antonio Marino stopped Cosimo Oggiano in three.
Lightweights Lino Becchetti and Fathi Kaabi drew over six.
(3-9-88)
▶**CANTU**—Musaya Kabamba knocked out Mwembo Kitenge in the fourth round of a middleweight match.
(3-10-88)
▶**FERRERA**—Welterweight Alessandro Duran decisioned Wa Kitenge over eight.
Welterweight Jose Luis Limpio decisioned Mohamed Ouhmad over six.
(3-11-88)
▶**LERICI**—Maurizio Stecca, 126¾, won a 10-round decision over Angel Hernandez, 128.
Gianni DiNapoli, 129¼, knocked out Eduardo Leanos, 129½, in two.
Romolo Casamonica, 151½, won an eight-round decision over Tomas Garcia, 149¾.
Giuseppe Perrella, 136½, decisioned Andres Blanco, 135¾, over six.
Michele Renna, 161, stopped Serge Meyers, 158¾, in five.
Michele La Fratta, 130, decisioned Bofunga Eymono, 131½, over six.
(3-12-88)

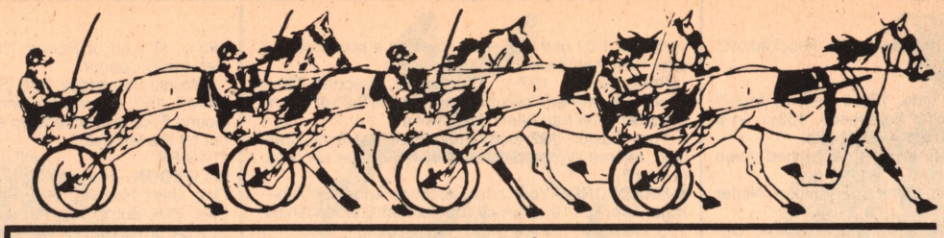
SWITZERLAND

▶**GENEVA**—Mauro Martelli won a 12-round decision over Antoine Fernandez for the European welterweight championship.
Bantamweight Antoine Montero stopped Miguel Espinoza on cuts in four.
Middleweights Carlton Warren knocked out Enrico Scacchia in three.
Welterweights Ivan Atencio and Savas Iskender drew in six.
(3-4-88)

UNITED KINGDOM

▶**CARDIFF**—Welsh National Sports Centre—George Collins, 150¼, Camberley, stopped Mexican Luciano Fernandez, 152, referee Wynford Jones intervening with 18 seconds remaining of the opening round after Fernandez had been down from a right hand and was then sent halfway through the ropes. Collins is still unbeaten, but his last five bouts have been won in a total of less than seven rounds. It cannot be long before he is matched with opponents who will extend him.
Floyd Havard, 129¼, Cardiff, also kept his unbeaten record by stopping American Mario Salazar, 134½, referee Jones calling a halt at the end of Round Two when Salazar was cut by both eyes.
Cornelius Carr, 153¼, Middlesborough, stopped Seamus Casey, 159, Pinxton, referee Roddy Evans intervening at 0:40 of the sixth and final (two-min) round when Casey was cut by the left eye.
Kevin Thompson, 150, Dudley, stopped Frank McCord, 148¾, Swansea, referee Evans calling a halt in Round Six of a scheduled eight twos after McCord had been down from a right hook. It was Thompson's sixth successive victory.
Ian Bullock, 193, Bolsover, narrowly outpointed Welsh cruiserweight champion Abner Blackstock, 193, referee Evans scoring it 79-78 after eight.
Returning after three-years' inactivity, Dean Dickinson, 132, Sheffield, outpointed Alan Roberts, 131¼, referee Jones casting it 59½-58 after six twos.
(1-12-88)
▶**MANCHESTER**—Anglo American Sporting Club—Humphrey Harrison, 144, outpointed Paul Jones, Sheffield, referee Harry Warner scoring it 79½-77 after eight. Jones was frequently warned for "ungentlemanly conduct" and Central Area secretary Ted Tully was quoted as saying that the matter would be discussed at their next meeting.
Oliver Harrison, 137¾, brother of Humphrey, stopped Mark Kelly, 138, Doncaster, referee Phil Cowsill intervening at 1:07 of the opening round in a scheduled six after Kelly had been down three times.
Philip Nurse, 137½, Manchester, stopped Dave Croft, 138, referee Cowsill calling a halt at 0:25 of Round Six after Croft had been down twice.
Tony Foster, 132, outpointed Paul Shedzoy, Sheffield, referee Warner scoring it 59½-58 after six twos.
(1-11-88)
▶**BRADFORD**—Yorkshire Executive Sporting Club—Nigel Crook, 119, Chorley, outpointed Gordon Shaw, 118, Glasgow, referee Brian Hogg scoring it 78½-77½ after eight twos.
Frank Harrington, 144, Lancaster, outpointed Pat Durkin, 148, Southport, referee Keith Garner casting it 39½-38½ after four.
Overcoming an eye injury, David Binns, 143, Keighley, outpointed Steve Phillips, scoreline 59½-58½ after six.
Steve Garber, 224, Bradford, didn't lose a round in outpointing Mick Cordon, Doncaster, scoreline 60-57½ after six.
(1-18-88)
▶**CARDIFF**—Star Centre—British featherweight champion Robert Dickie, 129½, easily outpointed American Arvell Campbell, 129¼, referee Adrian Morgan scoring it 79½-76½ after eight. Campbell was down twice.
David Griffiths, 140, Cardiff, won the vacant Welsh lightwelter title by outpointing Mark Pearce, 140, Cardiff, referee Morgan casting it 98½-97½ after 10.
Andy Gerrard, 215½, Risca, outpointed Midlands champion Andy Malcolm, 219, referee Mike Heatherwick casting it a narrow 78½-78 after eight.
Mark Purcell, 144, Gloucester, beat Kelvin Mortimer, 144, Trebanog, referee Heatherwick intervening with 15 seconds left of Round One of a scheduled six when Mortimer was cut by the left eye.
▶**LONDON**—National Sporting Club—Ian Honeywood, 137½, Beckenham, outpointed Andrew Furlong, 137½, Hammersmith, referee Dave Parris scoring it a narrow 78½-78 after eight.
Rudy Valentino, 136, Hanwell, narrowly outpointed John Dickson, 136½, Larkhall, referee Parris scoring it 59-58½ after six. It was Dickson's first defeat.
Chris Richards, 156, Nottingham, kayoed Stan King, 154, Forest Hill, at 1:04 of Round Five in a scheduled six twos with a right to the head. Referee Paddy Sowerr.
Dean Lake, 162, Herene Bay, outpointed Mark Holden, 160, Sheffield, referee Sower scoring it 60-58 after six twos, indicating that Lake hadn't lost a round.
(1-18-88)
▶**LONDON**—Latchmere Leisure Centre—**Glenn McCrory**, 189, Annfield Plain, retained his Commonwealth cruiserweight title and also won the British crown by outpointing Londoner Tee Jay, 188, referee Sid Nathan scoring it a narrow 118½-118 after 12.
McCrory overcame the handicap of a cut eye sustained in Round Eight and used his superior height and reach to good effect. Sparring with Mike Tyson could well have given him that extra edge.
Johnny Melfah, 160, Gloucester, kayoed Carl Penn, 155, America, in 2:00 of Round One in a scheduled 10 after flooring him twice. Referee, Nathan.
Tommy Driscoll, 127½, Bermondsey, outpointed Patrick Kamay, 127½, referee Nick White casting it 79½-78½ after eight.
Branko Pavlovic, 179, Bedford, stopped Gus Menzies, 186, Birmingham, referee White intervening at 1:32 of Round Three in a scheduled six twos after Menzies had been down three times.
Dave Brosnan, 149, Eltham, beat Shane Traylen, 156, Fleet, who retired at the end of Round Two in a scheduled six twos with an injured hand.
Steve Aquilina, 162, Wolverhampton, outpointed B.K. (Barry) Bennett 162, Aylesbury, referee White casting it 59½-58½.
(1-21-88)
▶**KINGS HEATH**—Cocks Moors Wood Leisure Centre—**Lloyd Christie,** British lightwelter champion, 144, outpointed American **Tim Burgess**, 141½, who came in as a substitute at only four days' notice. Referee Jim Pridding scored it 98½-98 after 10.
The verdict was hotly disputed. Rated No. 20 by the WBC, Burgess was faster, but lacked the power of punch that could have made the difference, considering the number of blows he landed.
Ronnie Carroll, 121, Glasgow, outpointed Central Area champion Gerry McBride, 123, referee Pridding casting it 79½-78 after eight.
Hugh Firde, 132, Birmingham, kept his unbeaten record by outpointing Billy Cawley, 130½, Birmingham, not losing a round on referee Terry O'Connor's card of 80-76½ after eight.
John Williams, 183, London, kayoed John McBean, 183½, at 1:56 of Round Three in a scheduled four. Referee O'Connor.
Antonio Fernandez, 156, Birmingham, beat Malcolm Melvin, 157, referee O'Connor intervening at 0:46 of Round Four in a scheduled six twos when Melvin was cut by the left eye.
(1-19-88)
▶**LONDON**—Hornsey Town Hall—Floored in Round One, Jess Harding, 217, Potters Bar, stopped Barry Ellis, 216, Burnt Oak, referee Dave Parris intervening at 2:34 of Round Two in a scheduled eight after Ellis had been down from a left uppercut.
Roy Callaghan, 149, Kentish Town, outpointed Johnny Nanton, 144, Peckham, referee Parris scoring 78½-77½ after eight twos.
Jeff Dobson, 128½, Eltham, stopped Darren Darby, 130½, Rotherham, referee Tony Walker intervening at 0:50 of the opening round with Darby under pressure.
Lee Amass, 132½, narrowly outpointed Dean Dickenson, 133, Sheffield, scoreline 59-58½ after six twos.
Martin Smith, 144½, Tottenham, outpointed Danny Shinkwin, 148, Borehamwood, referee Walker casting it 59½-58 after six.
(1-20-88)
▶**SOLIHULL**—Midlands Sporting Club—Tony Willis, 139½, Liverpool, beat Mike Durvan, 138, Penge, referee John Coyle intervening in Round Six when Durvan was injured by the left eye and bleeding from the nose.
Central Area bantamweight champion John Green, 119½, Manchester, outpointed Dave George, 119½, Swansea, referee Paul Thomas casting it 78½-77½ after eight.
Wally Swift, 152, Solihull, outpointed Scottish champion Tommy McCallum, 151½, Edinburgh, referee Coyle scoring it 79-77 after eight.
Ronnie Campbell, 143½, Dudley, narrowly outpointed John Mullen, 139, Irvine, referee Thomas casting it 59-58½ after six twos.
Another narrow win saw Derek Amory, 128½, Birmingham, outpoint Lambsy Kahani, 130, Sheffield, referee Thomas's card showing 79-78½ after eight twos.
Linton Scarlett, 152, Dudley, outpointed Simon Paul, 149, Hackney, referee Thomas scoring it 59½-58 after six twos.
(1-19-88)
▶**GLASGOW**—St. Andrews Sporting Club—Robert Harkin, 139¾, Helensborough, won the Scottish light welterweight title by stopping champion Dave Haggarty, 140, Paisley, referee Billy Rafferty intervening at 2:46 of Round Four in a scheduled 10 after Haggarty had been down. This was their third meeting, each having won one previously.
Dave Adams, 123, Kirkcaldy, retired two years ago because of a recurring eye problem, but made a successful comeback by outpointed Gordon Shaw, 118½, Glasgow, referee Len Mullen scoring it 59½-58½ after six twos.
Debutant Johnny Walker, 134½, Kilmarnock, outpointed Tony Foster, 133¾, Hull, referee Mullen scoring it 59½-58½ after six.
Mark Robertson, 115, Kilwinning, stopped Tony Smith, 117½, Burnley, referee Mullen calling a halt at 1:27 of Round One with Smith under pressure.
(1-25-88)
▶**STOKE**—North Staffs Sporting Club—Dave Robb, 140, Telford, overcame the handicap of a cut by the left eye to outpoint Dean Bramhald, 140, Doncaster, referee Jim Pridding scoring it 79½-77½ after eight twos.
Jason Rowe, 156, Leeds, stopped Keith Scott, 155½, Birmingham, referee Brian Arnott intervening at 0:24 of Round Three after Scott had been floored.
Kevin Plant, 141½, Doncaster, drew with Robbie Bowen, 140, Wednesbury, over six twos. Referee Pridding.
Addison Jones, 175, Doncaster, didn't lose a round in outpointing Darren McKenna, 177, Alfreton, referee Arnott casting it 60-57½ after six.
Cecil Branch, 142, Wolverhampton, outpointed Steve Taggart, 140, referee Arnott casting it 39½-39 after four twos.

▶**BIRMINGHAM**—Arden Sporting Club—Paul Wesley, 160, Birmingham, outpointed Paul Murray, 162, Birmingham, referee John Keane scoring it 79½-76½ after eight.
Sean Heron, 161, Edinburgh, beat Gerald Richards, 160, Sheffield, who retired at the end of Round Three in a scheduled six twos stating that his eye was injured.
Russell Barker, 174, Nottingham, drew with Derek Myers, 175, Penge, over six twos. Referee Larry Thompson.
Paul Shedzoy, 129, Sheffield, narrowly outpointed Sean Hogg, 131, St. Helens, referee Thompson casting



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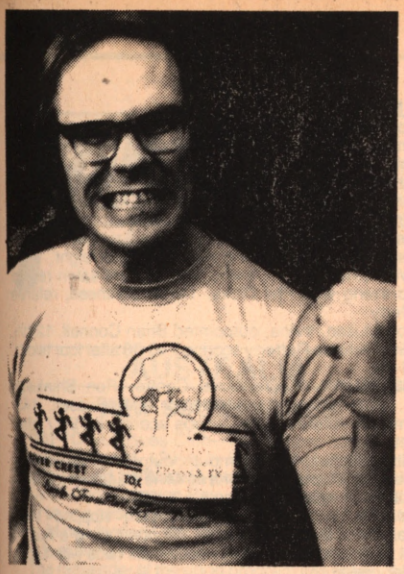

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it 59-58½ after six twos.
(1-25-88)

▶**LONDON**—Anglo City Sporting Club—Mark Howell, 157, Nottingham, outpointed Newton Barnett, 159, Camberwell, referee Mike Jacobs scoring it 78½-77 after eight.

Chris Richards, 158, Nottingham, stopped Lou Ayres, 155, Streatham, referee Jacobs intervening at 1:59 of Round Three in a scheduled six twos after Ayres had been floored by a right hand.

Lee Amass, 133, Gravesend, outpointed Kid Sumaila, 136, Ghana, referee Jacobs casting it 59½-58 after six.
(1-29-88)

▶**HARTLEPOOL**—Borough Hall—Ken Foreman, 149, Hartlepool, won the Northern Area light middleweight title by stopping Neil Patterson, 151, Darlington, referee Fred Potter intervening at 1:12 of Round Six in a scheduled 10 after Patterson had been down.

Jeff Decker, 139, North Shields, won the Northern Area light welterweight title by outpointing Marvin P. Gray, 137, referee Arnold Bryson scoring it a narrow 98½-98 after 10.

John Westgarth, 224, Hartlepool, beat Ian Priest, 210, Alfreton, referee Gerald Watson calling a halt at the end of Round One when Priest was cut by the left eye, the injury requiring four stitches.

Harry Escott, 132½, Sunderland, made a successful comeback after four months' inactivity while recovering from a broken jaw, stopping Michael Howell, 133½, Nottingham, referee Bryson intervening at 2:02 of the fourth and final round after Howell had been down. He was also down in Round One and Escott took a brief count in Round Three.

Peter Crook, 146, Chorley, didn't lose a round in outpointing Dave Hindmarsh, 141, Newcastle, referee Watson scoring it 40-39 after four. Hindmarsh was down three times.

Graham O'Malley, 120, Middlesbrough, also didn't lose a round, but his points win over Des Gargano, 122, Manchester, was still narrow, referee Potter casting it 40-39½ after four.
(1-26-88)

▶**HOVE**—Town Hall—Noel Quarless, 211¾, stopped former European contender Andre Van Den Oetelaar, 223½, referee Ritchie Davies intervening at 1:01 of Round Three when Andre was cut by the right eye.

Stan Jones, 140¾, Swansea, narrowly outpointed Peter Eubanks, 142½, Brighton, scoreline 78½-78 after eight. This confirmed a previous victory, but Eubanks was unhappy about this verdict. Jones was down without a count in Round Two, and Eubanks was floored by a right hand in Round Three.

Theo Marious, 165¾, Hackney, narrowly outpointed Leigh Wicks, Brighton, referee Jack Snipe casting it 78½-78 after eight.

Gary Finn, 163, Paddington, also gained a narrow victory over Roger Silsby, 162, Brighton, referee Snipe casting it 59½-59 after six.

Dave Thomas, 163, Hull, kayoed Gary Smith, 160½, Brighton, at 1:18 of the opening round by a right hand. Smith had been inactive for nearly two years.

Michael Justin, 152¼, Nottingham, narrowly outpointed Nigel Moore, 154, Thamesmead, scoreline 59-58½ after six twos.
(1-26-88)

▶**LONDON**—York Hall—Mo Hussein successfully defended his Commonwealth lightweight title by knocking out Bright Spider, Zimbabwe, referee Larry O'Connor counting him out at 1:14 of Round One in a scheduled twelve. A left hook to the head did the trick.

Nigel Benn, 164, West Ham, kayoed Venezuelan Fermin Chirinos, 166½, who was counted out by referee O'Connell at 1:04 of Round Two in a scheduled eight. Chirinos had been down twice previously.

Damien Denny, 148, Belfast, kayoed Simon Lee, 149, Wisbech, referee Reg Thompson counting him out at 1:20 of Round Seven in a scheduled eight.

Cornelius Carr, 153, Middlesbrough, outpointed Kasem Clayton, 158, Coventry, referee Thompson scoring it 59½-57½ after six.

Tony Collins, 156, Yately, kayoed Robert Armstrong, 156, Doncaster, who was counted out by referee Thompson at 1:14 of Round One.

Oliver Henry, 142, Kings Lynn, didn't lose a round in outpointing Robbie Bowen, 143, Wolverhampton, referee Thompson casting it 60-57½ after six.
(1-27-88)

▶**DURHAM**—Meadowfield Sports Centre—John Townsley, 136, Kirkcaldy, outpointed Nigel Bradley, 136, Sheffield, referee Arnold Bryson scoring it 59½-58½ after six.

Frank Harrington, 148, Lancaster, outpointed Mike McKenzie, 151, Perth, referee Bryson casting it 59½-57½ after six twos. McKenzie was down twice.

Dave Kettlewell, 146, Leeds, didn't lose a round in outpointing substitute Pat Durkin, 151, Southport, referee Gerald Watson scoring it 40-39 after four twos.

Paul Marriott, 138, Sheffield, outpointed Dean Binch, 138, Doncaster, referee Watson scoring it 59½-58½ after six twos.
(1-29-88)

▶**TORQUAY**—Julian Boustead, Torquay, who had been inactive for three years, stopped Central Area light welter champion Gary Williams, referee Wynford Jones intervening at 1:59 of Round Four in a scheduled eight after Williams had been down in the previous round and was under pressure.

Light welter Frankie Lane, Bournemouth, outpointed Dean Bramhald, Doncaster, over eight twos.

Kevin Plant, Rotherham, stopped Joff Pugh, Torquay, in 1:13 of Round One.

Ronnie Stephenson, Doncaster featherweight, outpointed Chris Cooper over six twos.
(1-29-88)

▶**NORTHAMPTON**—Jack Solomons Sporting Club—Colin Lynch, Coventry, beat Eddie Lloyd, 128, Swansea, who retired at the end of Round Four in a scheduled eight. Both men had been down twice. Lloyd sustained an injured shoulder.

Dennis Bailey, 191, Kettering, came back after 16 months absence to outpoint Johnny Nelson, 187, Sheffield, referee Larry Thompson scoring it 79-78 after eight.

Stephen Aquilina, 162, Wolverhampton, outpointed Darren Burford, 167, referee Thompson casting it 59½-58 after six twos.

Alex Romeo, Northhampton, outpointed Tony Lawrence, 172, Kings Lynn, referee Thompson casting it 59½-58 after six twos. Lawrence was down in Round Three.

▶**MANCHESTER**—400 Club—Ossie Maddix, 149, Manchester, outpointed Frankie Mori, 152, Liverpool, referee Ron Hackett scoring it 80-76½ after eight, indicating that Maddix hadn't lost a round.

Graham O'Malley, 118, Middlesbrough, outpointed Nigel Crook, 120, Chorley, referee Hackett casting it 79-77 after eight twos.

Peter Crook, 142, outpointed John Smith, 140, Liverpool, referee Phil Cowsill scoring it a narrow 59-58½ after six twos.

Tony Foster, 131½, Hull, outpointed Shaun Hogg, 132, Liverpool, referee Cowsill casting it another narrow 59-58½ after six twos.
(2-1-88)

▶**BELFAST**—Ulster Hall—Paul Hodkinson, 126½, Kirkby, stopped Richie Foster, 129, Dublin, referee Sid Nathan intervening at 1:29 of Round Three of a scheduled 10 after Foster had been down three times.

Alan McCulloch, 122, Belfast, drew with Sean Casey, 121, Derry, over six twos. An excellent contest, referee Sid Nathan unable to separate them, and nobbins came in from enthusiastic fans.

All-Ireland middleweight champion Sammy Storey, 162½, made it eight in succession by stopping Steve Foster, 164, Manchester, referee Nathan calling a halt at 0:59 of Round Four in a scheduled six with Foster under pressure.

Andy Holligan, 141¾, Belfast, kept his unbeaten record by stopping Andy Morgan, 142½, Merthyr, referee Nathan intervening at 2:25 of Round Five in a scheduled six with Morgan cut by the left eye and under pressure.

Verrol Liverpool, 138¼, Trinidad, won his first fight in Britain by outpointed Peppy Muir, 141½, Belfast, referee Nathan casting it 79½-78 after eight. Liverpool was down briefly in Round Two.
(1-27-88)

▶**LONDON**—York Hall—Winston Wilson, 157¾, Wandsworth, gained the best victory of his career by knocking out former British and European light middleweight champion Jimmy Cable, Orpington, 160, at 2:35 of Round Two in a scheduled eight. A left hook to the body did the trick. Referee, Roy Francis.

Derrick Williams, 233, Peckham, outpointed Dave Garside, 216, Hartlepool, referee Francis scoring it 99-97½ after 10.

Jimmy Peters, 175½, Southampton, outpointed Lee Woolis, 176, Alfreton, referee Paddy Sower scoring it 79½-77½ after eight twos.

John Bennie, 129, Hurlford, outpointed Steve Pollard, 131½, Hull, referee Francis casting it a narrow 59-58½ after six.

Debutant Derek Grainger, 148, Bethnal Green, outpointed Jim Beckett, 148¾, Woodham, referee Sower scoring it 60-57½ after six twos, indicating that Grainger

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hadn't lost a round.

Max Wallace, Barnes, stopped Gary Dyson, 152¼, Penge, referee Sower calling at halt at 1:03 of Round One in a scheduled six twos with debutant Dyson under pressure.
(1-28-88)

▶**STAFFORD**—On the Frank Tate/Tony Sibson undercard, **Nigel Benn**, 160, Ilford, made it 14 in a row, all inside schedule, by stopping Byron Prince, 160, Canada, referee John Coyle intervening at 2:00 of Round Two in a scheduled eight. Prince was down in Round One and was under pressure.

Peter Till, 136¾, Bloxwich, kayoed Michael Marsden, 137, Leeds, at 2:13 of Round One in a scheduled six. Referee Jim Pridding.

John Ashton, 153¼, Derby, won the vacant Midlands Area light middleweight title by outpointing Kid Milo, 153½, Birmingham, referee Coyle scoring it 98-97 after 10.

Making a comeback after nearly 12 months, Brian Schumaker, 171, Liverpool, kayoed Dave Owens, 172½, Castleford, at 1:37 of Round One.

Damien Denny, 147, Belfast, outpointed substitute Dean Bramhald, 142, Doncaster, referee Terry O'Connor casting it 40-38 after four. Denny remains unbeaten.

▶**WEMBLEY**—Grand Hall—**Michael Watson,** 161¼, is going places. There can be no doubt about that after he had beaten American star **Don Lee**, 162. Official result was a stoppage by referee Dave Parris at 2:05 of Round Five in a scheduled 10 when Lee sustained a cut mouth. But Watson was ahead at that stage.

Obviously, no one could be sure of what would have happened in the second half of the fight, but Watson was boxing coolly and confidently, varied his punches well and was as fit as a fiddle, a tribute to trainer Eric Seccombe.

Also, it was an accurate right hand that cut Lee's mouth, not a collision of heads. Watson's manager **Mickey Duff** has turned down the Board of Control's edict that Watson should meet James Cook in an eliminator for the British title. He says Watson deserves a straight crack at the crown. And after his performance against Lee, it is difficult to argue with this contention.

Gary Cooper, 154, Southampton, won the vacant British light middleweight title by outpointing Michael Harris, 153½, Swansea, referee Mickey Vann scoring it 118½-116½ after 12.

Both had taken part in two previous shots at a British title, but this was a great win for the 30-year-old Cooper after eight years as a pro.

Former British and Commonwealth middleweight champion Mark Kaylor, 175, stopped American Charles Henderson, 173½, referee Parris intervening at 2:10 of Round Three with Henderson under pressure after being floored. Kaylor did well to survive a cut over the left eye.

Gary Mason, 239, stopped former WBC cruiserweight titleholder **Alfonso Ratliff**, 204, referee Parris intervening at 1:12 of Round Six in a scheduled eight after Ratliff had been down. Mason keeps his unbeaten record, but there were times when he looked as if he had punched himself out. Ratliff failed to take his chances, and Mason then came right back.

Steve McCarthy, 170, stopped Andy Wright, 166, Tooting, referee Parris intervening at 2:50 of Round Four of a scheduled six after Wright had been down four times in that round. On the last occasion he did not bother to take up the count.

Paul Seddon, 141¾, stopped Brian Nickels, 138, Kilburn, the intervention coming at 2:00 of the opening round in a scheduled six after Nickels had been floored three times. Nickels had an injured right ankle.
(2-3-88)

▶**NOTTINGHAM**—Albany Hotel—Gary Maxwell, 127½, Nottingham, drew with Mike Whalley, 135, over eight, but there were those spectators who voiced their disapproval of referee Johnny Coyle's verdict, which they thought should have gone to Maxwell.

Ricky (brother of Gary) Maxwell, 146, outpointed Billy Joe Dev, 135, Alfreton, over six twos. Referee Coyle (who handled all bouts) scored it 59½-57½. It was Rickey's debut.

Another debutant, Adrian Din, 150, Nottingham, kayoed Pat Durkin, 153, Southport, at 1:21 of Round Two in a scheduled six twos.

Tony Banks, 132, beat debutant Barry North, 135, Longwith, the bout being stopped at 1:25 of Round Three in a scheduled six twos when North was cut by the left eye.
(2-8-88)

▶**GLASGOW**—Plaza Ballroom—Dave McCabe, 149¾, Glasgow, kayoed Gerry Beard, 150, Nottingham, at 1:19 of Round Three in a scheduled eight. Referee, Ian Mullen.

Joe Kelly, 117, Glasgow, narrowly outpointed Kid Sumaila, 123, referee Mullen scoring it 78½-78 after eight.

Brian Holmes, 119, outpointed Gordon Shaw, 117½, referee Mullen casting it 79-77½ after eight.

Jim Moffat, Kilmarnock, 135, outpointed Scottish super featherweight champion Dave Savage, 134, referee Billy Rafferty scoring it 79½-77 after eight.

Wull Strike, 117½, Irvine, kept his unbeaten record by drawing with Phil Dicks, 114½, Swansea, referee Rafferty.

Joe Mullen, Irvine, outpointed Brian Connell, 122½, Stirling, referee Rafferty scoring it 40-38 after four twos.
(2-8-88)

▶**NEWBURY**—Recreational Centre—Ron Shinkwin, 141, Borehamwood, outpointed Mike Russell, 143, Plymouth, referee Mike Jacobs scoring it 79-77 after eight.

Glyn Mitchell, 150, Plymouth, outpointed Steve Huxtable, Barnstaple, 158, referee Mike Heatherwick casting it 59-58 after six twos.

Johnny Stone, 160½, Gloucester, stopped Tony Cloak, 160, Bideford, referee Jacobs calling a halt at 1:34 of Round Two in a scheduled six twos with Cloak under pressure.

In a clash of debutants, Paul Moylett, 133¼, Bristol, stopped Mark Singh, 136½, Gloucester, referee Heatherwick intervening at 1:20 of Round Three in a scheduled six twos with Singh under pressure. A good crowd-pleaser.

Mark Purcell, 144, Gloucester stopped Nicky Lucas, 143, Swindon, referee Jacobs calling a halt at 1:47 of Round Two in a scheduled six twos after Lucas had been down.

Andy Catesby, 159½, Bournemouth, kayoed Nigel Dobson, 150½, at 1:04 of Round One in a scheduled four. It was a few minutes before Dobson was allowed to leave the ring.
(2-6-88)

▶**MANCHESTER**—Anglo American Sporting Club—Pat Barrett, 138, Manchester, came in as a sub and stopped Oliver Henderson, 142, Kings Lynn, referee Brian Hogg intervening at 1:04 of Round Two after Henderson had been down.

Oliver Harrison, 138, Manchester, narrowly outpointed Steve Phillips, 142, referee Keith Garner scoring it 59-58½ after six. Phillips was down briefly in Round Four.

Philip Nurse, 138, Manchester, stopped Dean Dickenson, 136, Sheffield, referee Garner calling a halt at 1:14 of Round Two after Dickenson had been down twice. Nurse had also been down.

Paul Shedzoy, 130, Sheffield, kayoed Paul Thornton, 130, Sheffield, at 1:32 of Round One. Referee, Hogg.
(2-8-88)

▶**LONDON**—York Hall—George Collins, 151½, kept his unbeaten record by outpointing Ian Chantler, 154, St. Helens, referee Sid Nathan scoring it 79½-76½ after eight. A wide margin which fails to reveal the drama in the final round when Collins was caught by a right hand. He went down, was up immediately, but obviously was hurt and had to hang on desperately until the final bell.

Gary Stretch, 154, St. Helens, kayoed Tommy McCallum, 159½, Edinburgh, at 2:44 of Round One in a scheduled eight after flooring him earlier.

James Oyebola, 221½, Paddington, was floored twice, but got up to stop Denroy Bryan, 213, Swindon, referee Tony Walker intervening at 1:44 of the sixth and final round after Bryan had also been down twice.

Brian Robinson, 156¾, Hastings, stopped Theo Marius, 156½, Stepney, referee Sid Nathan calling a halt in Round Four after Marius had been floored.

Tommy Shiels, 153½, Kilburn, returned after a layoff to beat Rory Callaghan, 153¼, Holloway, referee Walker intervening at the end of Round Two when Callaghan was cut by the left eye.
(2-9-88)

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AUSTRALIA

NEW SOUTH WALES

▶**DAPTO**—Leagues Club—Craig Pevy, 129¼, halted Simon Maidment, 129¼, in Round Seven of a scheduled 10-round NSW state junior lightweight title tilt.

Defending champion Pevy had the edge from Round Two on in a good fight. He was well on top when referee Billy Males stopped the fight and crowned Pevy, who now is chasing Tony Miller for Miller's Australian crown.

The remainder of the good program consisted of four-rounders.

Paul Edwards, 161, knocked out Rocky Restuccia, 163¼, in three.

Jody Lindsay, 140, outpointed Brendan Foley, 143¼.

Danny Fletcher, 149¼, knocked out Darren Goodwin, 142¼, in four.

Adam Clarke, 169¾, outpointed Shane Council, 172¾.

Promoter: Frank Axisa.

(2-26-88)

QUEENSLAND

▶**TUGUN**—Surf Life Saving Club—Jeff Malcolm, 154, reached his 100th contest when he easily outpointed Stewart Hartley, 155, over 10.

Kevin Johnson, 116, easily outpointed Billy Duluth, 116, over eight.

In a six-rounder, Tilta Halpin, 134½, knocked out Troy Power, 134½, in the first.

Promoter: Don Glover.

(2-25-88) **RAY MITCHELL**

NEW ZEALAND

▶**AUCKLAND**—Logan Campbell Centre—A disputed stoppage loser to August Tanuvasa in a bout for the vacant New Zealand heavyweight championship last year, Lance Revill, 193½, used his greater ring experience to earn a majority, 12-round decision over the 223½-pound defending titleholder in a rugged rematch.

Tanuvasa was keen for action in the opening three rounds and his heavy, swiping blows had Revill appearing none too happy. But the challenger's experience came to the fore as he held his own the next three sessions, then dominated the seventh and eighth, working busily inside and boxing neatly on the outside.

After a lull in the ninth, Revill took the 10th. Tanuvasa's heavier punching in the 11th saw Revill gamely battling back and the final three minutes were hotly contested.

A welterweight bout ended in 11 seconds when Michael Sykes doubled up Young Ali with a beautiful southpaw left to the body. Ali gasped for breath as the count was tolled.

Gritty Craig Parsons, 159¾, was set to defend his South Pacific middleweight title against Teuane Naea, but the latter weighed in at 174. The 12-rounder went on as scheduled, though, with Parsons looking to reverse a loss suffered to Naea last year. After a terrific battle that drew a standing ovation, Parsons emerged a majority points winner.

In the opening round it appeared Naea was going to score a repeat win as he easily connected with lefts to the face while Parsons quietly worked the body. Parsons upped his punch-rate in the second, scoring with busy, snapping three-punch combinations, though Naea came back strong at the end of the fourth as the two went toe-to-toe. Round Five was vicious as both staggered from heavy blows. The sixth was quieter, but Naea found the range with straighter and harder punches the next two frames. Parsons took the ninth with snappier combos and was busier in the 10th, though Naea landed the harder punches. In Round 11, each saved his energy for the final round which saw

WORLD RATINGS
BY THE WORLD BOXING ASSOCIATION
(As of February, 1988)

HEAVYWEIGHTS
Champion
Mike Tyson (US)
1. Frank Bruno (England)
2. Tony Tubbs (US)
3. Tyrell Biggs (US)
4. Pinklon Thomas (US)
5. Trevor Berbick (Canada)
6. Francesco Damiani (Italy)
7. Jose Ribalta (US)
8. Tim Witherspoon (US)
9. Adilson Rodriguez (Brazil)
10. Donovan Ruddock (Canada)

JUNIOR HEAVYWEIGHTS
Champion
Evander Holyfield (US)
1. Sammy Reeson (England)
2. Bert Cooper (US)
3. Toufik Balbouli (France)
4. Michael Greer (US)
5. Jose Flores (Uruguay)
6. Patrick Lumumba (Uganda)
7. Dwight Muhammad Qawi (US)
8. Sherman Griffin (US)
9. Glenn McCrory (England)
10. Ossie Ocasio (Puerto Rico)

LIGHT HEAVYWEIGHTS
Champion
Virgil Hill (US)
1. Jean-Marie Emebe (France)
2. Tony Willis (US)
3. Leslie Stewart (Trinidad)
4. Tom Collins (England)
5. Ramzi Hassan (US)
6. Bobby Czyz (US)
7. Joe Lasisi (Nigeria)
8. Willie Featherstone (Canada)
9. Richard Caramanolis (France)
10. Marvin Johnson (US)

SUPER MIDDLEWEIGHTS
Champion
Chong-Pal Park (Korea)
1. Fulgencio Obelmejias (Venezuela)
2. Lindell Holmes (US)
3. Vincent Boulware (US)
4. Victor Cordova (Panama)
5. Chris Reid (US)
6. Polly Paseiron (Indonesia)
7. Jay Strickland (US)
8. Frank Minton (US)
9. Nicky Walker (US)
10. Wang-Sun Lee (Korea)

MIDDLEWEIGHTS
Champion
Sumbu Kalambay (Italy)
1. Mike McCallum (Jamaica)
2. Marvin Hagler (US)
3. Michael Nunn (US)
4. Herol Graham (England)
5. Michael Olajide (Canada)
6. Roberto Duran (Panama)
7. Juan Roldan (Argentina)
8. Iran Barkley (US)
9. Doug DeWitt (US)
10. In-Chul Baek (Korea)

JUNIOR MIDDLEWEIGHTS
Champion
Julian Jackson (Virgin Islands)
1. Buster Drayton (US)
2. Donald Curry (US)
3. Darrin Van Horn (US)
4. Carlos Elliot (Japan)
5. Milton McCrory (US)
6. Robert Hines (US)
7. John Mugabi (Uganda)
8. Chris Pyatt (England)
9. Carlos Santana (Puerto Rico)
10. Jun-Suk Hwang (Korea)

WELTERWEIGHTS
Champion
Marlon Starling (US)
1. Tomas Molinares (Colombia)
2. Yung-Kil Chung (Korea)
3. Mark Breland (US)
4. Tyrone Trice (US)
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6. Danny Garcia (Puerto Rico)
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9. Tommy Ayers (US)
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JUNIOR WELTERWEIGHTS
Champion
Juan Martin Coggi (Argentina)
1. Sang-Ho Lee (Korea)
2. Meldrick Taylor (US)
3. Harold Brazier (US)
4. Akinobu Hiranaka (Japan)
5. Kyung-Duk Ahn (Korea)
6. Engles Pedroza (Venezuela)
7. Eun-Sik Lim (Korea)
8. Vincent Releford (US)
9. Tek N'Kalankete (Zaire)
10. Tsuyoshi Hamada (Japan)

LIGHTWEIGHTS
Champion
Julio Cesar Chavez (Mexico)
1. Rodolfo Aguilar (Panama)
2. Pernell Whitaker (US)
3. John Duplessis (US)
4. Edwin Rosario (Puerto Rico)
5. Primo Ramos (Mexico)
6. Terrence Alli (Guyana)
7. Juan Nazario (Puerto Rico)
8. Mauricio Aceves (Mexico)
9. Rafael Pineda (Colombia)
10. Alberto Cortez (Argentina)

JUNIOR LIGHTWEIGHTS
Champion
Brian Mitchell (South Africa)
1. Jose Rivera (Puerto Rico)
2. Mario Martinez (Mexico)
3. Mario Miranda (Colombia)
4. Harold Knight (US)
5. Tyrone Jackson (US)
6. Lupe Suarez (US)
7. Angel Garcia (Puerto Rico)
8. Jim McDonnell (England)
9. Jackie Beard (US)
10. Shin-Hung Lee (Korea)

FEATHERWEIGHTS
Champion
Antonio Esparragoza (Venezuela)
1. Jose Marmolejos (Panama)
2. Valerio Nati (Italy)
3. Victor Callejas (Puerto Rico)
4. Tyrone Downes (Barbados)
5. Hector Lopez (Mexico)
6. Marcos Villasana (Mexico)
7. Maurizio Stecca (Italy)
8. Mitsuru Sueiya (Japan)
9. Jean Marc-Marc Renard (Belgium)
10. Byung-Soo Park (Korea)

JUNIOR FEATHERWEIGHTS
Champion
Bernardo Pinango (Venezuela)
1. Seung-Hoon Lee (Korea)
2. Julio Gervacio (Dominican Republic)
3. James Pipps (US)
4. Louie Espinoza (US)
5. Jose Sanabria (Venezuela)
6. Tommy Valoy (Dominican Republic)
7. Loris Stecca (Italy)
8. Luis Mendoza (Colombia)
9. Mark Horikoshi (Japan)
10. Pedro Decima (Argentina)

BANTAMWEIGHTS
Champion
Wilfredo Vasquez (Puerto Rico)
1. Kaokor Galaxy (Thailand)
2. Edgar Monserrat (Panama)
3. Cardenio Ulloa (Chile)
4. Raul Perez (Mexico)
5. Takuya Muguruma (Japan)
6. Frankie Duarte (US)
7. Lucio Lopez (Argentina)
8. Gaby Canizales (US)
9. Hurley Snead (US)
10. Lucilo Nolasco (Dominican Republic)

JUNIOR BANTAMWEIGHTS
Champion
Kaosai Galaxy (Thailand)
1. Kiyoshi Hatanaka (Japan)
2. Alberto Castro (Colombia)
3. Kontoranee Payakarun (Thailand)
4. Thanomsak Sithbaobay (Thailand)
5. Gilberto Roman (Mexico)
6. Tae-Il Chang (Korea)
7. Sung-Kil Moon (Korea)
8. Chiaki Kobayashi (Japan)
9. Yul-Wo Lee (Korea)
10. Leopard Tamakuma (Japan)

FLYWEIGHTS
Champion
Fidel Bassa (Colombia)
1. Hilario Zapata (Panama)
2. Miguel Mercedes (Dominican Republic)
3. Duke McKenzie (England)
4. Paul Gonzalez (US)
5. Orlando Canizalez (US)
6. David McAuley (England)
7. Adrian Roman (Argentina)
8. Kenji Matsumura (Japan)
9. Yul-Wo Lee (Korea)
10. Leopard Tamakuma (Japan)

JUNIOR FLYWEIGHTS
1. Jose DeJesus (Puerto Rico)
2. Mario DeMarco (Argentina)
3. Hideyuki Ohashi (Japan)
4. Cho-Woon Park (Korea)
5. Humberto Gonzalez (Mexico)
6. Rodolfo Blanco (Columbia)
7. Willie Salazar
8. Francisco Tejedor (Colombia)
9. Carlos Orobio (Panama)
10. Yong-Kang Kim (Korea)

MINIMUMWEIGHTS
Champion
Leo Gamez (Venezuela)
1. Bong-Jun Kim (Korea)
2. Tony DeLuca (US)
3. Samuth Sithnaruepol (Thailand)
4. Kenji Yokosaka (Japan)
5. Pretty Boy Lucas (Philippines)
6. San-Jong Lee (Korea)
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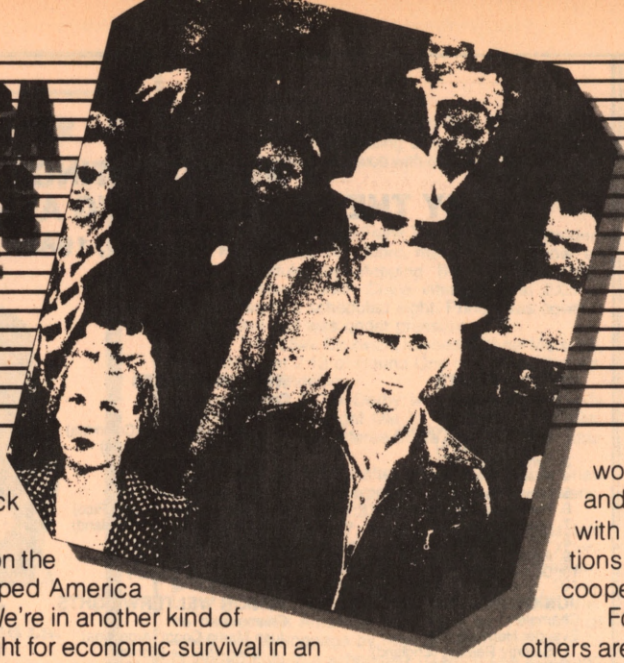

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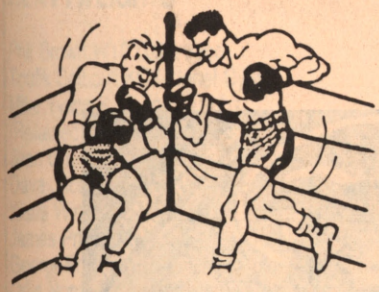

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them go tooth-and-nail throughout, keeping the crowd in a constant uproar.

In an eight-round bout featuring two Pacific Islanders bordering on world class, Asea Nama, 217¾, was found wanting against Young Haumona, 210. Haumona fought with the confidence of a winner throughout, zooming in with a steady burst of short punches in the sixth round that knocked Nama through the ropes. He was unable to re-enter the ring before being counted out.

Chanboon Tanuvasa, 184, was subjected to severe body punishment from Dave Rava Rava, 195, throughout their scheduled six. As the bell sounded for the fifth, Tanuvasa conceded defeat in his corner, keeping Rava Rava undefeated in New Zealand rings.

In an earnestly contested six-rounder Moondog Tanuvasa, 165½, lost a split decision to Tai Strickland, 169¼.

Promoter: Arthur Collins.

Referees: Ali Afakasi, Johnny Hanks, Beaven Weir & Eddie Manuela.

Attendance: 4,000.

(2-10-88)

▶**AUCKLAND**—Glenfield Centre, North Shore—Oft-beaten veteran of 40-odd fights, Rocky Salanoa, 204, turned in a surprise when he upset fancied Lindsey "The White Shark" Christiansen, 200, on a unanimous, eight-round decision.

With five KOs in as many bouts, Christiansen was given a good chance at being the first to ever spill over and KO Salanoa. But that remains to be accomplished as Salanoa matched the pace of Christiansen in the opening round and took some crackling shots on the jaw in the second without a sign of being hurt. Neither asserted authority in the third, but Salanoa certainly did in the fourth when he twice dropped Christiansen heavily for eight-counts. Christiansen counterpunched his way back into the fight in the fifth, but both were wary and weary in the sixth. Fortunes see-sawed over the last two frames.

Muaa Tailuiu, 157, won the opening round of his bout with James Higgens, 165, but a solid blow to his right eye midway through the second frame had Tailuiu sagging blindly into the ropes where he was counted out.

Alberto MaChong, 140, paid the penalty for conceding weight as he found Levuala Afakasi, 152, too strong and rugged in their six-rounder, which Afakasi won comfortably on points.

Paul Baker, 145, had previously been outpointed by the more experienced Monty Bhana, 141, and suffered the same fate in this return. Bhana used intelligent ring craft to win unanimously, though Baker stormed to a strong finish.

Islander Paddy Junior, 148, and local Graham Durban, 146, fought strongly in their four-rounder, Durban showing more initiative to earn a split decision.

Promoter: Justan Higgens.

Attendance: 1,000.

(2-12-88)

JOHNNY HANKS

AFRICA

IVORY COAST

▶**ABIDJAN**—Heavyweight Proud Kilimanjaro knocked out Allou Gobe in seven rounds.
(1-29-88)

MOROCCO

▶**CASABLANCA**—Carlos Santos decisioned Hugo Marinangeli in a 10-round middleweight bout.

Said Skouma stopped Jake Torrance in the fifth round, middleweights.

Welterweight Andre Kimbu stopped Nicky Parker in five.

Toufik Balbouli knocked out Lionel Byarm in the seventh round of a heavyweight match.
(3-4-88)

SOUTH AFRICA

▶**PORT ELIZABETH**—Flyweight Odwa Mdleleni, in his first international contest, scored a seventh-round TKO over Torbio Riasco of Colombia.

The fight was fairly even for six rounds, but, to everyone's surprise, Riasco surrendered at the start of the seventh. It was later revealed the Colombian was suffering from stomach cramps.
(12-6-87)

▶**PORT ELIZABETH**—Vuyani Nere successfully defended his national junior flyweight title when he stopped Ngaba Govuza in the sixth round of a scheduled 12-rounder.

Nere, making the fifth defense of his title, dominated from the first bell.
(12-20-87)

▶**CAPE TOWN**—Stanford Ngcebeshe won the South African junior featherweight title when he stopped a rather inept Zweli Ngcongolo in the third round of a scheduled 12.

Ngcongolo was stripped of his title when he weighed in two kilograms (4½ pounds) over the stipulated limit of 122. According to local rules, the champion Ngcongolo forfeited his title, but the fight could go on as a championship contest with Ngcebeshe taking the title if victorious.

Due to his drastic attempts to lose the weight, Ngcongolo was very weak and an easy target.

Aladin Stevens scored an impressive third-round knockout over Victor Fata in the lightweight division.

Derrick Whiteboy scored his 10th win since joining the paid ranks when he battled his way to a gory seventh-round TKO over Cingile Sandi.
(12-20-87)

RON JACKSON

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WORLDWIDE FIGHT RESULTS

HEAVYWEIGHTS

Phil Brown W10 Dave Jaco
Toufik Balbouli KO7 Lionel Byarm
Mike Tyson KO2 Tony Tubbs
(Retained WBC & WBA titles)
Jean Chanet TKO2 Maurice Gomis
Dave Jaco KO1 Mike Simuwelu
Klaus Winter KO1 Karl Heinz Heistermann
James Pritchard W10 Steve Zouski
George Foreman TKO7 Dwight Muhammad Qawi
Orlin Norris W12 Renaldo Snipes
Bert Cooper KO4 Tony Fulilangi
Tex Cobb W10 Leon Spinks

LIGHT HEAVYWEIGHTS

Vaughn Hooks W12 Frankie Swindell
Virgil Hill TKO11 Jean Marie Emebe
(Retained WBA title)
Leslie Stewart TKO9 Dean Moore
Graciano Rocchigiani TKO8 Vincent Boulware
(Won vacant IBF Super Middleweight title)
Lindell Holmes KO8 Lotte Mwale
Jesse Shelby W10 Doug Sam
Isais Lucero W12 Juan Hernandez
Chong-Pal Park KO5 Polly Pasireron
(Retained WBA Super Middleweight title)

MIDDLEWEIGHTS

Reginald Johnson TKO4 Gonzalo Montez
Giuseppe Leto WF8 Calisto Bavaresco
Carlos Santos W10 Hugo Marinangeli
Said Skouma TKO5 Jake Torrance
Jeff Malcolm W10 Stewart Hatley
Anthony Logan TKO3 Derrick Earving
Tyrone Moore TKO3 Larry Tyson
Davey Moore TKO4 Hector Rosario
Chris Tiozzo KO7 Lexter Yarbrough
Iran Barkley TKO5 Michael Olajide
Sumbu Kalambay W12 Mike McCallum
(Retained WBA title)
Steve Collins W10 Sammy Storey
Robbie Sims TKO9 Ralph Smiley
Dwight Davidson TKO3 Ron Daniels
Ron Malek W10 J.D. Dobbins
Giuseppe Letto DQ9 Callisto Bavaresco
Michael Nunn KO2 Curtis Parker

WELTERWEIGHTS

Lloyd Honeyghan KO3 Jorge Vaca
(Regained World Welterweight Championship)
Fred Pendleton TKO4 Steve Larrimore
Vinnie Burgese W10 John Rafuse
Mauricio Rodriguez TKO8 Fernando Martinez
Harry Arroyo TKO8 Rick Souce
Alfredo Rojas W10 Eduardo Valdes
Chuck Glover KO3 Roosevelt Jones
Mauro Martelli W12 Antoine Fernandez
Jose Varela KO1 Marc Stevens
Harold Brazier TKO9 Robin Blake
Mario Olmedo W12 Miguel Angel Dominguez

LIGHTWEIGHTS

Sylvester Kennon W10 Mike Grow
Craig Pevy TKO7 Simon Maidment
Rocky Lockridge W15 Harold Knight
(Retained IBF Jr. Lightweight title)
Felipe Orozco W10 Jesse Williams
Rene Weller W12 Jose Maillot
Ismael Pineda W10 Fernando Rios
Amancio Castro TKO7 Billy Wooten
Mike Benjamin KO1 Angus Alleyne
Gordon Carew W10 Fitzroy Davidson
Jose Luis Ramirez W12 Pernell Whitaker
(Retained WBC title)
Jean Baptist Mendy NC2 Angel Luis Garcia
Jean Baptist Mendy KO3 Angel Luis Garcia
Valerio Nati KO2 Ricky West
Kamel Bou Ali KO1 Julio Cesar Gonzalez
Jesus Rojas W10 Omar Flores
Johnny de la Rosa W10 Pedro Montero
Mark Adams W12 Brad Jeffries

FEATHERWEIGHTS

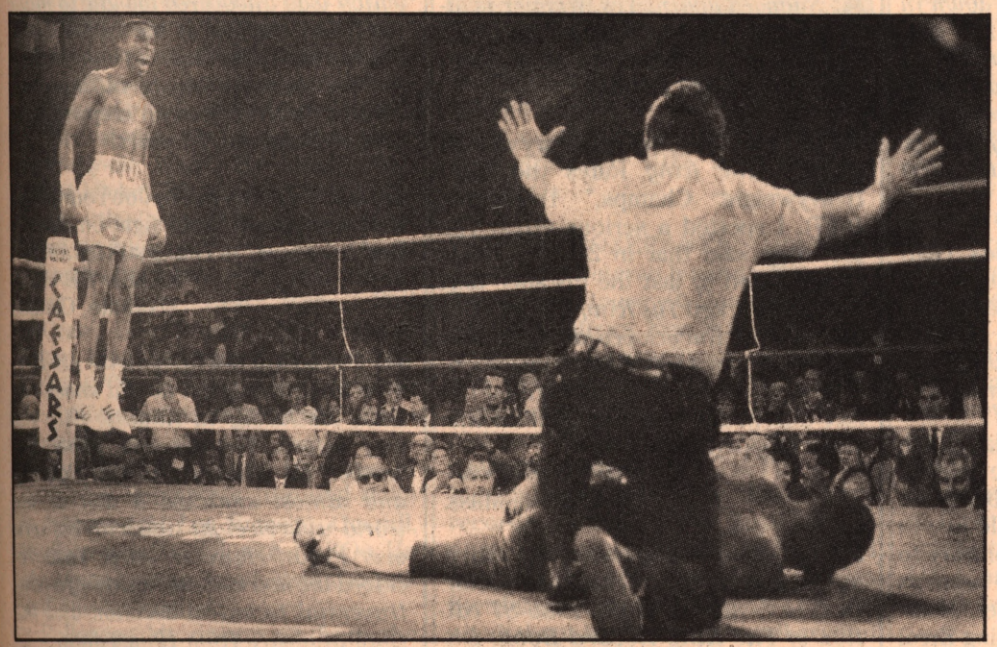
Maurizio Stecca W10 Angel Hernandez
Pedro Barrera W12 Alejandro Galvis
Farid Benredjeb W10 Kamel Djadda
Jeff Fenech TKO10 Victor Callejas
(Won WBC title)
Gino Gelormino TKO6 Norman Bates

BANTAMWEIGHTS

Luis Mendoza TKO4 Miguel Maturana
Juan Polo Perez D10 Eudo Bermudez
Peter Mitrevski TKO8 Charlie Brown
Fernando Valencia W10 Daniel Guillen
Juan Jose Estrada TKO10 Lusito Espinosa

FLYWEIGHTS

Fidel Bassa W12 Dave McAuley
(Retained WBA title)
Eugemio Oviedo KO1 Arnold Velasquez
Agustin Garcia TKO3 Bernardo Ceballos
Samuth Sithnaruepol Tech.Dec.11 Pretty Boy Lucas
(Won vacant IBF Mini Flyweight title)



Undefeated Michael Nunn is airborne with delight as referee Carlos Padilla signals "ten and out" over face-down Curtis Parker in an NABF middleweight title defense at Caesars Palace in Vegas.

PHOTO BY JOHN GRUZINSKI/ NEVADA NEWS BUREAU

ASK THE ANSWERMAN

by Phill Marder

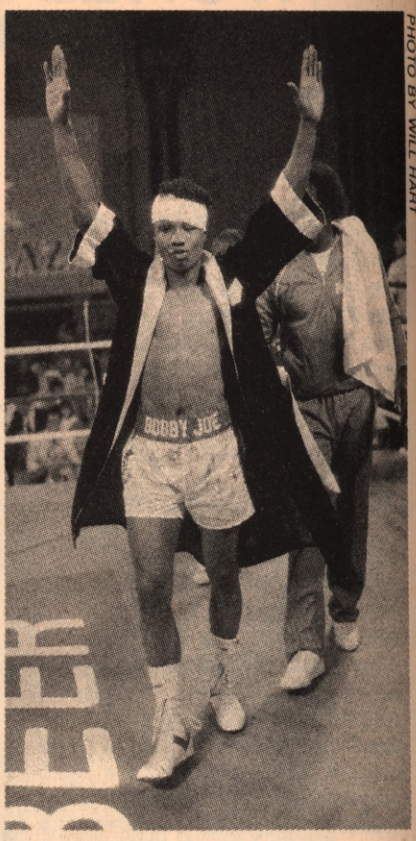


PHOTO BY WILL HART

"The Answerman" helps Canadian reader Helen DeWild with some info on welter Bobby Joe Young, pictured here after winning a "technical" decision over David Noel in Atlantic City.

Q: I would like to know if you could give me some inside information concerning the fight between George Foreman and Jimmy Young. I was always a very big fan of "Big George," but missed this fight when I was young and never heard any news about it.

ADAM DUBBS
New Rochelle, N.Y.

A: *The fight in question, which took place in San Juan, Puerto Rico March 17, 1977, was not one of "Big George's" finer moments. In fact, it sent him into what appeared to be permanent retirement until he began his recent comeback. Young boxed briskly over the first six rounds, with Foreman following him, but doing little else. When the two did get close, Foreman did little inside. In the seventh, Foreman hurt Young with a left followed by a right, but Young lasted the round. Foreman, tiring rapidly, was staggered in the seventh and appeared ready to collapse in the eighth and ninth frames, but did try to put Young out in the 10th. The effort merely drained him of his remaining energy, and Young even knocked him down in the 12th. The scores were 118-111, 116-112 and 115-114, all for Young. Foreman, dehydrated, was hospitalized with a slight concussion, but left for the States the next day. George complained, "I know that the first seven rounds were totally mine. I know I won without a doubt the 10th round, so that's eight rounds right there. It only leaves four rounds for him." However, I remember seeing the fight on TV and George was soundly beaten. Perhaps the two would be interested in a long overdue rematch?*

Q: In reference to your denial of Edward Flynn — the Olympic welterweight champion of 1932 — being the late, great Errol Flynn, I would like to point out that Errol Flynn, contrary to your suggestions, had indeed been, as a teenager, an amateur boxer. However, you were correct in saying Errol could not have been Edward. For a start, Errol stood about 6-2 and weighed 185 pounds.

SEAN McCARTHY
Lancashire, England

Q: Errol Flynn fought in the Olympics out of Australia. He lost on a one-round knockout to Eddie Egan, who went on to win the Olympic heavyweight championship and later became a New York fight commissioner.

DAN KENNA
Springfield, MA

A: *The Errol Flynn fight fans have spoken!*

Q: Although it was later revealed that Chuck Wepner stepped on Muhammad Ali's foot causing Ali to go down, I thought that trip to the canvas was always considered an "official" knockdown since that was what the referee called it. What is the official ruling on that "knockdown?"

BOB O'BRIEN
Albany, N.Y.

A: *Snagged again! Yes, Wepner is officially credited with knocking down Ali. Maybe we should change this column to "Ask the Readers!"*

Q: As I read the brief summary of Jack Dillon ("*The Ring* Rates the Light Heavyweight Champs," December, 1987), I spotted a serious error. The summary said that in 240 pro bouts Dillon failed to last the distance only twice. I checked *The Ring Record Book and Boxing Encyclopedia*, *Who's Who in Boxing* and a few other unimpeachable sources, and they all verified the fact that in 240 pro bouts Dillon was never stopped.

JOHN DONOVAN
Springfield, Mass.

A: *Mr. Donovan is certainly sharp, but no sharper than "The Answerman" in this instance. In the 1986-87 edition of* ***The Ring Record Book****, Dillon is shown being stopped in two rounds by one Phil Harrison in Memphis in 1919. This fight was not included in Dillon's previous record, and I questioned Herbert G. Goldman, the record book's editor. Mr. Goldman said that his research had uncovered that Dillon had indeed been stopped in that bout and also in another, which was uncovered too late to make the latest edition of the record book. I'm not sure who deserves more credit, Mr. Goldman for uncovering those lost results, or Mr. Dillon for keeping them under wraps for 70 years!*

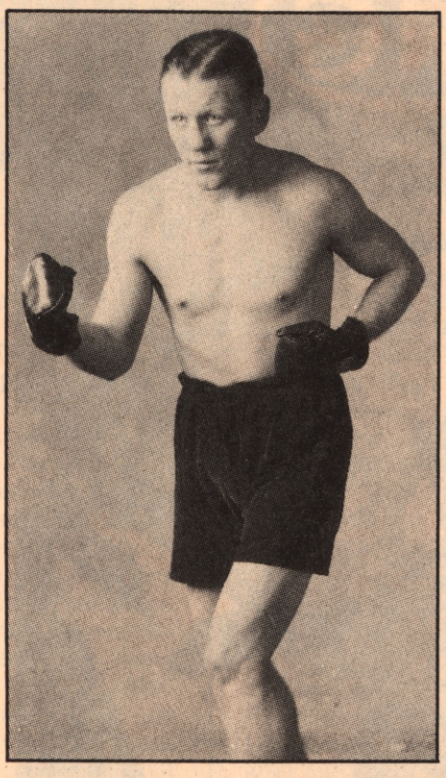
Q: Did the same Bobby Joe Young who defeated Aaron Pryor fight on the Ali-Berbick show? Is Young still fighting?

HELEN DE WILD
Toronto, Canada

A: *Young did not fight on the Ali-Berbick undercard, but he did knock out Babs McCarthy in Atlantic City the day before. Young's win came December 10, 1981. He is still fighting and almost snatched a shot at the world welterweight title with his win over Pryor. However, Jorge Vaca received the nod instead, winning a controversial technical decision and the championship from Honeyghan.* □

VETERAN BOXERS BEAT

by Charlie Spina



Ace Hudkins, the "Nebraska Wildcat"

THIS MONTH WE RECALL ACE HUDKINS, a human dynamo known as the "Nebraska Wildcat." Born August 30, 1905 in Valparaiso, Nebraska, Hudkins started fighting professionally in 1923. He was a rough, tough wildman in the ring, who could absorb unlimited punishment. The only way he knew how to fight was to wade in and batter away with both hands.

Hudkins did most of his early fighting on the West Coast and was practically unknown when he made his sensational New York debut against Ruby Goldstein at Coney Island Stadium, June 25, 1926. Goldstein, a flashy puncher known as the "Jewel of the Ghetto," was a heavy favorite and looked the part when he floored Hudkins in the opening round. But Ace came off the canvas and swarmed all over Goldstein. He rallied back, battering Ruby into defeat with a fourth-round knockout, firmly establishing himself as one of the most dangerous lightweights in the world.

When Hudkins encountered continuing weight-making difficulties, he stepped up to welter, middle, light heavy, and, eventually, heavyweight. But regardless of which division he fought in, Ace always displayed the same never-say-die spirit. He twice challenged Mickey Walker for the middleweight title, losing both times via 10-round decision.

Besides Goldstein, some of the headliners Hudkins beat were: Phil McGraw, Lew Tendler, Sgt. Sammy Baker, King Levinsky and Dynamite Jackson. The Jackson victory was for the California state heavyweight championship.

The "Wildcat" hung up his claws in 1932 after dropping a 10-round duke to heavyweight Lee Ramage. Overall, Hudkins was 50-13-5 with 18 KOs. He also fought seven "no-decision" bouts and one "no-contest."

Following his retirement from the ring, Ace settled down on his horse ranch in California, where he bred and trained horses for use in motion pictures and television westerns. Hudkins died April 18, 1973 in Hollywood, California.

VETERAN BOXERS NEWS: Gus Sthal, 92-year-old veteran boxing writer, is in Franklin D. Roosevelt Hospital, (Building 10) Montroes, New York 10548. Gus would love to hear from his old pals and readers ... Former WBA lightweight champ Ray "Boom Boom" Mancini recently signed an exclusive management contract with Tin Pan Apple Inc., the group which also handles rap recording stars The Fat Boys. "Ray is one of the most popular and beloved sports figures of our time," said Charles Stettler, president of TPA. "We are excited about his future as an all-around entertainer." Mancini, who plans a ring comeback against Hector Camacho, recently returned from filming "Dirty Dozen IV" in Yugoslavia for NBC-TV ... Jack Downey, veteran boxing figure from the San Francisco Bay area, recently began his 58th year as a licensed boxing official ... Here's the lineup of officers for the Southern California Boxing Hall of Fame: President, Gene "Spider" Mock; vice-president, Jimmy McLarnin; secretary/treasurer, Alice Mock. The Board of Directors are: Mike Neporandy, Fred Murphy, George Luckman, Ralph Mock, Leo Patykula, Dud Eades, Norm Cote, John Peterson, Lou Fillippo and Norm Lockwood. The group's publicist is Abe Hockheiser ...

THE LAST ROUND: Frankie Bove, 72, former featherweight contender during the 1930s, died this past February in Belleville, New Jersey. During his fine pro career, Bove defeated Sixto Escobar, Bobby Ruffin, Pablo Dano and Maxie Fisher while scoring 52 victories in 60 pro bouts. Frankie was a member of the Veteran Boxers Social Club of New Jersey and is enshrined in the New Jersey Boxing Hall of Fame ... Herman "Rory" Calhoun, 53, former middleweight contender of the 50s and 60s, died February 5, 1988 of liver failure in Hollywood, California. Calhoun, who turned pro in 1954, fought the best 160-pounders of his era, retiring at the age of 27. Nicknamed after the actor of the same last name, Calhoun also had parts in several movies, including "Requiem for a Heavyweight" and "The Main Event." ... Carmine Romano, 77, former lightweight contender who fought under the name Carmen Roman, passed away January 26, 1988 in Bayonne, New Jersey. A veteran of over 100 pro bouts, Romano was once the New Jersey state lightweight champion. A retired longshoreman, Carmen kept close to boxing as a member of the Bayonne PAL Boxing Club, where he helped train many Hudson County boxers ... John Antonacci, 79, a promoter and boxing judge from Syracuse, New York, died January 10, 1988 in his hometown. He was the brother of former middleweight contender Bob Amos ... Joe Monte, former New England heavyweight during the 1920s, died in January. Monte was Max Schmeling's first opponent in the U.S.A. and once held Jimmy Braddock to a draw ... May they all rest in peace. □

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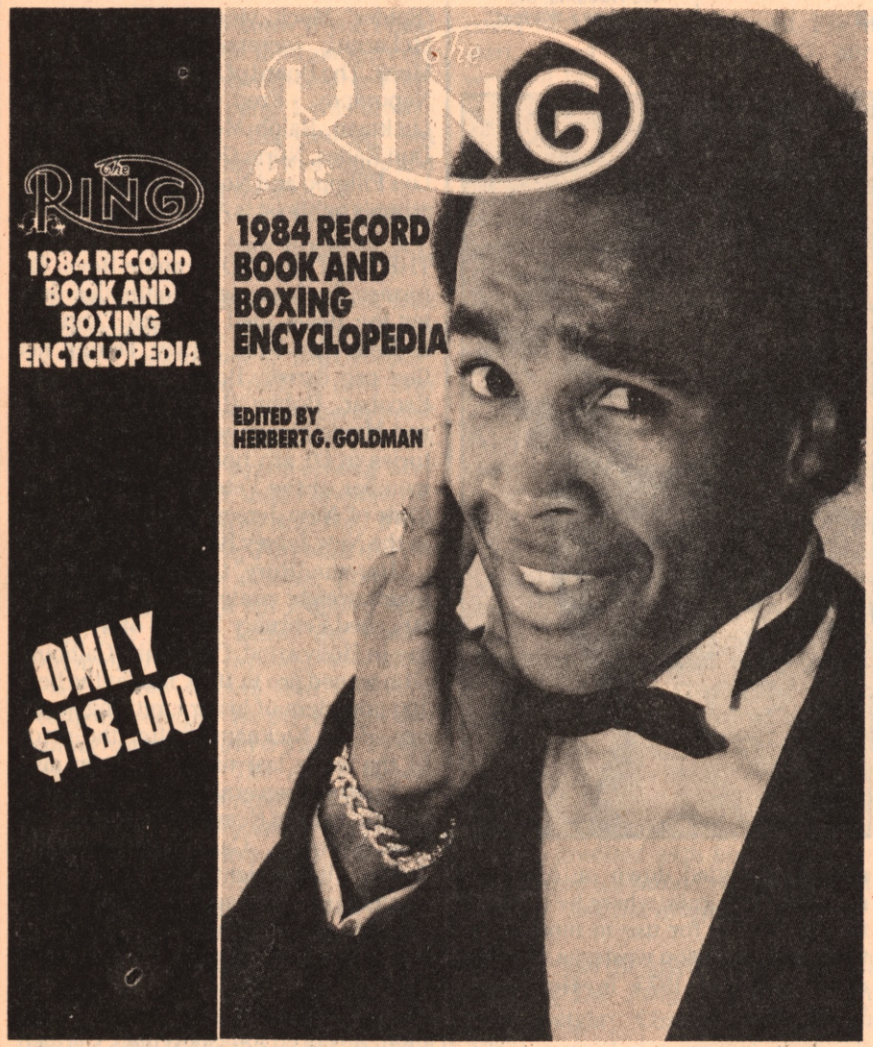

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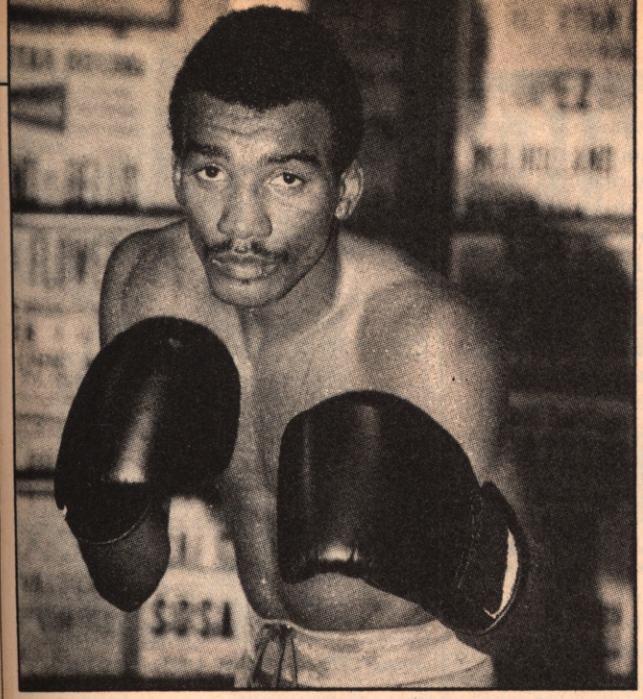
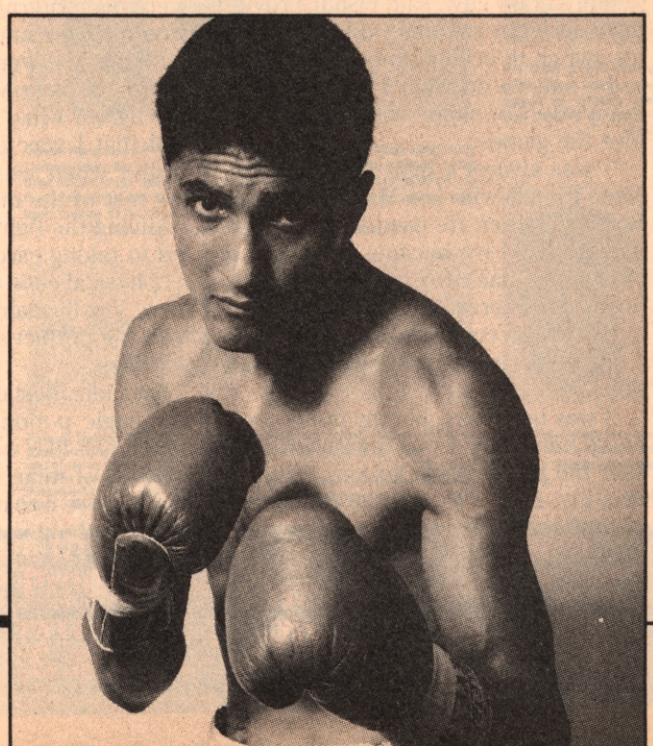


JESUS POOL
FEATHERWEIGHT

THE FOLKS AT TEN GOOSE BOXING REALLY KNOW HOW to pick their spots. Despite a growing reputation as one of boxing's most progressive managerial/promotional groups, until recently Ten Goose only had two pro boxers under contract — middleweight Michael Nunn and bantam Frankie Duarte. Now, California featherweight champion Jesus Pool has been added to the selective stable. A native of Venezuela now living in North Hollywood, Pool compiled a reported 173-14 amateur log, including a bronze medal at the 1983 World Cup. He is undefeated in 17 pro bouts with 15 wins and two draws. The stalemates can hardly be considered blemishes as they came against future WBA junior featherweight boss Julio Gervacio and highly rated Jeff Franklin in Pool's Las Vegas debut... After beginning his career with eight pro bouts in Latin America, Pool came to the USA and started all over again, boxing a four-round prelim in Phoenix. However, he quickly regained his main-event status, catching the eye of California boxing buffs with a points victory over Henry Lugo in Sacramento. Following wins over Daniel Garcia (W10) and Jorge Rodriguez (KO5), Pool stopped Paul Banke for the California 126-pound belt... "Pool is a real find for Ten Goose," reported Dean Lohuis, *The Ring's* Southern California correspondent. "He's one of the top prospects around. He's not world-class yet, but he's very close. He's just turned 23 and he's got a lot of potential." ... In Pool's first outing under the management of Ten Goose, he won a unanimous 10-round decision over Victor Paredes in what John Beyrooty of the *Los Angeles Herald Examiner* called "a good action fight." ... Though Pool only boasts four pro knockouts, he's not afraid to stand and mix ... "He's not a dancer by any means," said Dan Goossen. "And although he likes to mix it up, he has good upper body movement and is difficult to tag cleanly. A lot of people tried to sign Pool and we're happy he went with us." ... The way Pool is shaping up, Ten Goose's policy of quality over quantity seems to be bearing fruit ... once again. □

MIKE SEDILLO
LIGHT HEAVYWEIGHT

MIKE SEDILLO IS ONE OF BOXING'S HARD LUCK GUYS, the kind of work-a-day pug who's a solid fighter, but seldom seems to get a break. WBA light heavyweight champ Virgil Hill would be the first to admit "Scrap Iron" Sedillo gave him his toughest fight. They went 10 rugged rounds to a controversial decision in 1986, with Hill coming away with the nod. Hill went on to win a piece of the 175-pound crown, while Sedillo's next outing saw him absorb another loss when Glen Kennedy outscored him for the vacant California 175-pound belt. However, since then Sedillo has been on a four-bout winning streak, bringing his overall pro log to 22-4 with 14 KOs ... His most recent victory was a 10-round decision over "Diamond" Jim MacDonald in Sacramento; a triumph Sedillo and his new manager Jerry Valencia hope will open the door to bigger and better things ... "Give me another tuneup and I want to fight for a world championship, any one of them," said Sedillo in a statement typical in these days of split titles and muddled championships ... Sedillo, a lanky 6 ft. 3 in., has been a pro since March of '83 when he stopped Mike Deluca in two rounds at the Inglewood Forum. Besides Hill and Kennedy, he has lost to Freddy Guzman and Grover Robinson, both via decision. Important wins have come over James Salerno (W10) and Ian Mattis (TKO7) ... Promoter Don Chargin thinks the best is yet to come for Sedillo ... "He very easily could win the title someday," said Chargin following the impressive performance over MacDonald. "Sedillo showed he had ability against a tough, durable fighter. But he needs a little more exposure." ... Talk's cheap. But when you consider how close Mike came to breaking Hill, Chargin's statement doesn't seem so far fetched, after all. □



IN THIS CORNER

by Phill Marder

JOSEPH VISALLI (Cutman)

HE CLIPPED JOE LOUIS AND GOT AWAY with it.

Did the same to Barney Ross and never took a punch in return.

For "shear" audacity, it was tough to top Joe Visalli, ex-barber and current cutman and booking agent.

Joe "The Barber" they used to call him back in the days when some of the world's greatest fighters visited his Brooklyn clip joint to get in trim.

"I opened my shop in 1931 in Brooklyn," said the 78-year-old Visalli. "Joe Louis, Barney Ross . . ."

The names roll on.

"Teddy Brenner, I was his barber for many years," recalled Visalli. "Cut him once, and he didn't even know it. As a barber, I got to know a little bit about cuts."

By 1974, Visalli had done well enough to sell his business and retire — from barbering. He immediately got involved in the fight game.

"I'm a crazy guy," said Visalli, providing a perfectly rational explanation for his switch in occupations. "You've got to be nuts to do what I did, but I did it anyway. I'm happy with what I do. I love the game.

"I was always a fight fan, and I became friends with Len Mancini, "Boom Boom's" father. He used to come into my shop and we became friends, and he would come over my house. That's how I got interested."

The Italian connection. It has played a major role in Visalli's travels through life.

"I was born here, but my father took me to Italy when I was four years old," said the native New Yorker. "When I was 14½ I got a letter from Rome that said when I turned 16 I would automatically become an Italian citizen. I refused. I didn't want to give up my citizenship in this country. They gave me six months to either become a citizen, leave the country or go to jail.

"My father beat me up so bad, I ran away from home three times," Visalli continued. "But finally he must have changed his mind because he decided, 'Let's go back home.' My father, mother, sister all came with me, and my grandmother was still living in Brooklyn. I came here and learned the barber trade.

"I've been a fight manager since World War II. I had some pretty good fighters, but I never got that big. I used to manage Mike Cortez, the brother of Joe Cortez, the referee. He was pretty good."

Cortez, who has become one of today's better referees, remembered, "Joe's been involved with boxing since I was a kid. He's been around a long time. He loves boxing, he's a fanatic. He was very good with my brother, Mike."

Some of Visalli's fistic relationships were not as pleasant, though.

"I had a fighter in Munich," said Visalli. "After the fight, I got paid, went back to the hotel, put the money in a drawer and went out. While I was out, the fighter robbed me! I had $1,500 in there!

"I told him I was going to have him locked up and he wouldn't be able to leave the country. He gave me half the money back, so I made arrangements to leave. But on the plane I got to see the captain, and I told him what had happened and that I wanted him arrested when we landed. He said we were over international waters, but he would let me know when to tell him.

"While we were continuing on, I figured I'd take one more chance. I told the fighter I had talked to the captain and that I was going to have him arrested when we landed. He gave me the rest of the money."

Giving the fighter his cut eventually led to taking care of the fighter's cuts . . . physical cuts, that is. Like most cutmen, Visalli claims to have come up with the perfect solution for wounded warriors.

And, like most cutmen, Visalli guards his magic potion, saying only, "It's a liquid, just like water. It's legal. I have a friend of mine who is a skin doctor and he gave it to me. It's excellent. You use it in the period before a fight and you don't cut. That white stuff everyone uses today, I don't use that.

Joseph Visalli and Joe Louis circa 1940.

I'm afraid it will get into the fighter's eyes.

"I worked with Mustapha Hamsho in New Jersey. When I worked with him, he didn't bleed."

Hard to believe, but it was one of the few nice things Visalli had to say about his present home state.

"I miss New York," he admitted. "And I went all over the world as a cutman. I went to Italy, Germany, Trinidad, Ecuador, France, Belgium, South Africa ('I got malaria in South Africa,' recalled Visalli), London, Bermuda . . . I worked with Ralph Palladin in Italy against Rocky Mattioli. I also worked with Billy Douglas and I worked with Muhammad Ali in Bermuda. Ali was doing an exhibition, and he asked me to do his corner. He was a nice guy. He took me all over Bermuda.

"Today, 90 percent of the cutmen shouldn't be in the ring," said Visalli. "I saw a fellow recently, I don't want to mention his name, his fighter got cut real bad, and they sent him out for the next round and he got murdered. He ended up needing surgery. He should never have been sent out. The cutman should have never sent him out there.

"And I'm still working," added Visalli. "I'm working as a cutman and as a booking agent."

Thus, the hair-razing experiences continue.

"I offered Renaldo Snipes a fight with Francesco Damiani in Italy, Snipes said he wanted $100,000. What is he, nuts?"

Well, this is boxing, right? As Joe Visalli will tell you, "You've got to be nuts." □

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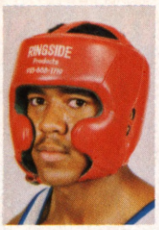

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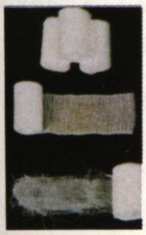
Bag Gloves—3/4 inch Foam Padding, Two Sizes, Great for Heavy Bag and Speed Bag. BG M, L 24.00

Leather Boxing Shoes—Extra high 10" shoe. Rubber sole. Four stripes can be personalized with your choice of colors. LBS $40.00

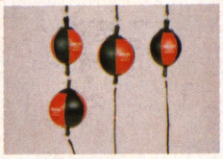


Competition Gauze—tight weave won't unravel—used by most professional trainers, USA/ABF & Golden Gloves approved.
CG-1 40.00

Punch Mitts—New, 2" foam pad is easier on hands. Deeper glove protects fingers. PM $45.00

Thumbless Competition Gloves—10 or 12 oz. USA/ABF approved. Available in red or blue.
SGT-10 $95.00 set; SGT-12 97.00 set

Attached Thumb Competition Gloves—10 or 12 oz. USA/ABF approved. Available in red or blue. SGA-10 $95.00 set; SGA-12 $97.00 set.



Double End Bags—Most complete line available! Welted seams. Great for combinations. Cables included.
Double Double-End Bag $70.00
Reg. Size $36.00; Peanut Size $36.00

Professional Fight Glove 8 or 10 oz. Attached Thumb. Large hand size, foam padded. PFG8 86.00
PFG 10 92.00

The most complete line of personalized clothing in boxing-trunks, robes, cornerman's jackets, jerseys—in satin, velour, terry cloth, etc. All personalized with your name or club name. Call for details today.

Competition Headguard—with and without cheek protectors, USA/ABF approved 3 foam design available in Red, Blue, Gold, White, Red/White/Blue USA, small, medium, large SG (with cheek) SG-1 (without) 36.00

Speed Bag—All Goatskin, triple reinforced loop, RPSB 8x5, RPSB-1 9x6 30.00 Pro Swivel-Triple Ball Bearing. Extra Fast
PS 11.00

Super Body Protector — Foam/Plastic/Foam design. Super protection - learn body punching. Wrap around design. SBP M&L 39.00

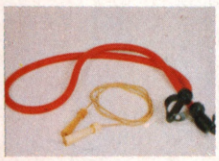
Training Handwraps 2"x170" extra long for added protection, velcro closure. Bright red color
HW 3.99

Training Gloves the world's most complete line! Attached thumb, elastic wrist, or thumbless. 2 inch, 4 foam design, safest training gloves in the world! Extra long cuff. All double stitched RP-14 (attached thumb) $118.00. RP-16 120.00, RP-18 125.00, RP-14E (elastic) 122.00, RP-16E 125.00, RP-18E 130.00, RP-14TL (thumbless) 122.00, RP-16TL 125.00, RP-18TL 130.00 (Prices for 4 gloves)

Canvas Heavy Bag 14"x 42, 20 oz. canvas foam liner, unfilled 35.00, filled 70.00. Leather Heavy Bag 14" x 42, thick leather will last a lifetime, unfilled 110.00, filled 145.00. Water Heavy Bag, "It feels human" PFB 100 lb. 110.00, PFB-1 130 lb. 130.00, PFB-2 150 lb. 170.00. Uppercut Bag 24" x 42, 20 oz. canvas, foam liner. Unfilled 35.00, filled 70.00.
*All filled bags must be prepaid—call for shipping costs.

Pro Style Cup—protects groin, hip, & kidney. Approved for amateur use also. RPNF S, M, L, XL 45.00

Coachspar Mitts — Now longer for more wrist protection, thicker padding. Teach defense and offense. CS 47.00



Jump Rope—Leather rope, ball bearing handle. Available in two sizes. JR8, $8.00; JR9, $9.00. Ultra Rope—weighted rope combines the elements of weight training and rope jumping. 3, 4 & 5 lbs. sizes. UTR $38.00

Super Guard Mouthpiece—Molds to each tooth. Fits top & bottom teath for extra jaw protection.
SGMP $3.99

Training Timers—Spar-Mate—has 3 + 2 min. work cycle, 1 min. rest, 30 sec. end of round warning buzzer. Lights & bell to indicate rounds.SM $112.00
Personal Spar-Mate—has buzzer on 1 min/3 min. cycle PSM $49.00

Miniature Boxing Gloves—Great for rearview mirror or gym bag
MBG $3.00
Boxing Glove Key Ring—The perfect gift for your boxer BGKR $1.50

Full Face Headgear—provides total protection, exclusive velcro adjustable closure.
FFHG 80.00

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